

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

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The 1997 Wisconsin QSO Party

Going mobile QSOing



Five members of the Ozaukee Radio Club put forth a great mobile effort in the 1997 Wisconsin QSO Party. Gary Sharbuno, WI9M, operates as Brian Skrentny, N9LOO, logs at the CW end of the van.

Five durable members of the Ozaukee Radio Club ventured forth on a cloudy but mild day March 9 to make Wisconsin QSO Party contacts and give out counties as well.

The group from the club included Nels, WA9JOB (duty driver, navigator, 2-meter FM operator, and general nice guy); Brian, N9LOO; Tom, WB9LNL, who changed between operating and logging at the 80-meter phone position on the front on the WI9M van; Gary, WI9M, and Bob, W9LO, who pounded the keyer and tried to stat on one frequency at a time.

Gary and Bob complained that Nels seemed to find every pothole in I-43, because the back of the van was bouncing all over.

Twenty meters was dead as a doornail, but the CW guys in the rear did well working 40. The phone operators went to 75 meters and, with some help operating by 2 meter FM, the requisite 15 contacts per county were made as the van headed upstate.

Nels had trouble at times trying to log contacts while the phone operators were working a noisy 75 meter band; I thought I saw Nels pulling on Brian's headset cord or bopping him on the head to get his attention. Bob and Gary, in back, were bouncing along and, when their headsets weren't embedded in the roof of the van, were making contacts from New Hampshire to California.

The WI9M route was from Ozaukee County to Green Bay and then down the west side of Lake Winnebago. We found lots of potholes on those roads, too.

The group made 504 contacts in 29 counties, 30 states, and 2 Canadian provinces from eleven Wisconsin counties with the bonus of 500 points for each county operated from, for a total of about 31,750 points.

Gear used included a Yaesu FT-5100 VHF/UHF FM transceiver with 50 watts on 2 meters, an Icom 735 running about 100 watts to a Hustler vertical on 75 phone, and the CW station was a Kenwood TS-850S and an Outbacker antenna on the rear of the van.

The day ended with a great view of the Hale-Bopp comet at the QTH of W9LO in West Bend. This was our first time mobiling it in the WQP, and maybe next year will bring a trailer with a generator inside, and possibly a KW amplifier. We'll see.

More photos are on page 9 of this issue. A future issue will carry full official results,

Wisconsin amateurs asked to prepare for communications support during possible power outages - see page 15

FCC issues changes in Amateur Radio rules

In response to three petitions for rulemaking, the FCC has adopted changes to the Amateur Service rules that -- among other changes -- will make it easier to obtain 1x1 call signs for special event stations and harder to get a club station license. Other amendments to the rules included in a Report and Order released April 1, 1997, will allow hams to append special designators either before or after their call signs -- or both, and will recognize, but not require, the use of a session manager at volunteer examiner testing sessions.



The FCC declined to give examination credit for formerly held licenses, and turned down an ARRL request for a lifetime operator's license.

Under the new amendments, the FCC will allow a licensee to substitute a self-selected call sign from the block of 1x1 call signs for temporary use during a special event operation. The station must announce its regularly assigned call sign at least once an hour. The special event call signs will be coordinated and issued by outside volunteer entities, not by the FCC. The Commission will announce later when and how volunteer entities may volunteer their services. The chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau then would certify volunteer entities to serve as amateur station special event call sign coordinators, who would issue 1x1 calls from a common, online special event call sign database. By definition, a 1x1 call sign consists of a single prefix letter, K, N or W; the region number, 0 to 9; and a single suffix letter, A to W, Y and Z -- 750 call signs in all. The FCC turned down a suggestion that would have limited special event call signs to stations licensed to Amateur Extra class operators.

In proposing to increase the eligibility requirements for a club station license, the FCC said it was "important to determine that the applicant for a club station license is a legitimate radio club and not just a person seeking to acquire additional call signs." Under the rules changes, the FCC has raised the eligibility requirement from

at least two members to a minimum of four. Applicants for a club station license must have a club name, a document of organization, management, and a primary ham radio purpose that's consistent with FCC rules.

Responding to a petition by the National Conference of Volunteer - Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC), the FCC said VECs could elect to designate a session manager if they wanted to, but they would not be required to do so. The Commission's new rules recognize the VE session manager function but emphasize that the three volunteer examiners at a test session would still be held "jointly and severally responsible for the proper conduct of each examination administered."

Another change will allow hams to include a self-assigned indicator before, after or both before and after the assigned call sign when identifying. Current rules only permit using such indicators after the station's regular call sign. Self-assigned indicators include those used to indicate location or type of operation, such as /KP2 when operating in the US Virgin Islands or /m when operating in a vehicle. They also can denote participation in an unusual event or other atypical station operation, according to the FCC.

Citing mostly negative comments, the FCC decided against allowing exam credit for formerly held amateur operator licenses. The Commission also said "no" to the ARRL's suggestion that the operator license be valid for the lifetime of the holder. The FCC said operators would still have to renew their station licenses every 10 years and that it did not want to maintain a separate database to keep track of station license expirations.

The FCC announced all of the rules changes in a Report and Order, FCC 97-99, adopted March 20 and issued April 1. The amendments become effective 30 days after the Report and Order is published in *The Federal Register*.

The ARRL Letter, 4/4/97

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EDITED BY KENNETH A. EBNER, K9EN, 822 WAUONA TRAIL, PORTAGE, WI 53901

Swapfests and Other Social Events

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 2-3. AES Superfest 97. Amateur Electronic Supply, Milwaukee, WI. Many supplier displays. Contact: Ray Grenier, K9KHW, (414) 358-4088. help@aesham.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1997. 19 annual Cedarburg Swapfest, sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club at the Circle-B Recreation Center, Highway 60 and County I (located 20 miles north of Milwaukee, west of Grafton). Admission \$4.00. both in advance and at the door. 4-foot tables are \$5.00. Food and refreshments available. Sellers set up 6:30 a.m. License exams start at 9:00 a.m. Talk-in on 146.37/97 and 146.52. For additional information, send an sase to ORC Swapfest Chairman, W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg WI 53012-1439. (414) 377-2784 or (414) 284-3271.

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1997. DeKalb Hamfest, Sandwich Fairgrounds, Sandwich, IL. Contact: Bob Yurs, N9ZNA, (815) 895-3219. email N9ZNA@AOL.com.

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1996. Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest, Manitowoc County Expo, Manitowoc, WI, intersection of Highways 41-151 and I-43 on County Highway R. FCC exams. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Friday night setup of vendors. Contact Glenn, AA9MT (414) 684-7096 or Red, N9GHE, (414) 684-9097 (nights).

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1997. Kankakee Area RS Hamfest, Will County fairgrounds, Peotone, IL. Contact: Willis Bowser, K9FIO, 1210 N. Riverside Dr. Momence IL 60954. (815) 472-2079.

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 1997. DeKalb Hamfest, Sandwich Fairgrounds, Sandwich, IL. Contact: KARC, PO Box 264 Sycamore IL 60178.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 16-17. DAYTON HAMVENTION. Hara Arena, Dayton OH.

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 1997. Chicago Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, DeVry Institute of Technology, 3300 North Campbell, Chicago, IL. Contact: CARC, 5631 W Irving Park Rd., Chicago, IL 60634. (312) 545-3622 or (312) 486-6823.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 1997. Princeton Hamfest, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Contact: Starved

Rock Radio Club, c/o KU9A, 1153 Union St., Marseilles, IL 61341-1710.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 1997. The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs will hold their 20th annual Swapfest and Auction at the Junction City, WI Village Park. This is a NEW LOCATION. (Formerly held in Stevens Point.) Contact: John Feltz, WA9LWJ, CWRA Swapfest Chairman, 973 East First Street, Junction City, WI 54443-9614. (715) 457-2506. e-mail: jfwa9lwj@t3net.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 1997. Six Meter Club of Chicago, Inc. Hamfest, DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Rd., Wheaton, IL. Contact: Six Meter Club of Chicago, 7109 Blackburn Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60516. (708) 442-4961.

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1997. South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest. American Legion Post 434, Oak Creek, WI. Contact (414) 762-3235.

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1996. Eau Claire ARC Swapfest, Eau Claire County Fairgrounds, Eau Claire, WI. Contact PO Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54701., Carol Ceraso (715) 723-9205 or Liz Searing (715) 834-1303.

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 1997. Fox River Radio League, Waubesa Community College, Route 47 at Harter Rd., Sugar Grove, IL. Contact: FRRL, PO Box 673, Batavia, IL 60510-0673.

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1997. Rockford (IL) Amateur Radio Association Hamfest. Winnebago County Fairgrounds, Pecatonica, IL. Contact: RARA, PO Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126-8465. (815) 399-9233.

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 1996. Racine Hamfest, Racine, WI. Contact RMC, PO Box 3, Racine, WI 53401.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 1997. HAMNIC: Marshfield Area Amateur Society will be holding their 6th annual picnic, potluck, swapfest in Wildwood park, Marshfield, WI. Gather around 11:00 a.m. All welcome. Contact Guy A. Boucher, KF9XX, 107 West Third St., Marshfield, WI 54449. (715) 384 4323. PACKET: KF9XX@W9IHW.WI.USA.NA. e-mail: guyboucher@tznnet.com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1997. CIRCUS CITY SWAPFEST, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Vendors, tail gate area, free parking, concessions, camping. \$5.00 (\$4.00 advance), \$5.00 per table (8 foot). Contact Steve, N9UDO, at (608) 356-4777 (voice or fax). steven9udo.baraboo.com. or Bill, N9KXX at (608) 643-6453 (evenings), (608) 643-6908 (days), (608) 643-8850 (fax).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1997. NORTHWOODS HAMFEST,

Sugar Camp Town Hall, Rhinelander, WI. Contact: Mary Berger, NS9Q, 367 Lois ST., Rhinelander, WI 54501. (715) 362-9296.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1977 Woodstock '97 Hamfest. McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock, IL. Contact: Tri County Radio Group, PO Box 3107, Skokie, IL 60076-6107. Voice/Fax (847) 658-1678.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1997. W9DXCC Convention & Banquet, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows, IL. Contact: Chairman, Phil Camera, KB9CRY. (708) 343-1696, FAX (708) 343-3494

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27-28, 1997. RADIO EXPO 97, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL. Contact: Chicago FM Club, PO Box 56724, Harwood Hts, IL 60656-0724. (708) 457-0966.

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21-22, 1997. Peoria Superfest '97 at Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Contact: SUPERFEST '97. PO Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508.

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15-16, 1997. Fort Wayne Hamfest at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Exposition Center, For Wayne IN. Contact: ACARTS, PO Box 10342, Fort Wayne IN 46851. (219) 484-1314.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 1998. 26th annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateurs Club, Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1998. Adams county hamfest scheduled for June 1, 1997 has been canceled. Plans are already in place to put forth a much larger and expanded Hamfest next year.

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

Badger State Smoke Signals

*Amateur Radio
Education and Information*

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Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$12.00
2 years	(24 issues - save \$2.00)	\$22.00
3 years	(36 issues - save \$4.00)	\$32.00

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebner, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebner.

Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebner.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebner.

Swapfest ads should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker.

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the September 1996 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following are additions or changes since that listing.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Last Thursday evening, Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa 53222. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. 12 months of the year.

GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION

Fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (414) 363-4439, garyk9gs@solaria.sol.net, K9GS@WA9KEC.WI.USA.NOAM, Packet cluster: NB9C, for meeting location.

M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

General meeting held second Thursday each month at 7:00 p.m. in cafeteria of BAMC basement, Tenth Ave., Menominee, MI. All amateurs and guests are welcome. Use the 147.000+ repeater. Our net is Sunday at 7:00 p.m. on the repeater. Our address is P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, WI 54143.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)

Days rotate: All meetings will be at the Baraboo Civic Center, room 14, unless otherwise noted. Starting time for the club meeting is 7:30 p.m.. The program is at 8:00 p.m., with a one hour limit.

ST. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS HUDSON

Club meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the St. Croix County Emergency Government Center on Charmicael Road in Hudson, WI. A short business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. followed by the program. Talk in is available on the 145.120 MHz repeater. All are welcome.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

May 03, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 03, 1997	Racine, WI
May 03, 1997	St. Paul, MN
May 08, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
May 10, 1997	Blaine, MN
May 10, 1997	Bloomington, MN
May 10, 1997	Madison, WI
May 10, 1997	Manitowoc, WI
May 10, 1997	Oak Creek, WI
May 17, 1997	Redgranite, WI
May 17, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
May 17, 1997	Loves Park, IL
May 17, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
May 20, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
May 21, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 31, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
May 31, 1997	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
June 07, 1997	Hudson, WI
June 07, 1997	Appleton, WI
June 07, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 07, 1997	Racine, WI
June 07, 1997	St. Paul, MN
June 12, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
June 14, 1997	Blaine, MN
June 14, 1997	Bloomington, MN
June 14, 1997	Madison, WI
June 14, 1997	Marshfield, WI
June 14, 1997	Oak Creek, WI
June 14, 1997	Medford, WI
June 17, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
June 18, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
June 21, 1997	Redgranite, WI
June 21, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
June 21, 1997	Loves Park, IL
June 21, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
June 28, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
June 28, 1997	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
July 05, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 05, 1997	St. Paul, MN
July 08, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
July 12, 1997	Blaine, MN
July 12, 1997	Bloomington, MN
July 12, 1997	Madison, WI
July 12, 1997	Oak Creek, WI
July 15, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
July 16, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 19, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
July 19, 1997	Loves Park, IL
July 19, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
July 26, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
July 26, 1997	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
August 02, 1997	Hudson, WI
August 02, 1997	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 02, 1997	St. Paul, MN
August 09, 1997	Blaine, MN
August 09, 1997	Bloomington, MN
August 09, 1997	Madison, WI
August 09, 1997	Oak Creek, WI
August 12, 1997	Apple Valley, MN
August 16, 1997	Cottage Grove, MN
August 16, 1997	Loves Park, IL
August 16, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
August 19, 1997	Eden Prairie, MN
August 20, 1997	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
August 30, 1997	Tomahawk, WI
August 30, 1997	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
September 20, 1997	Appleton, WI
October 04, 1997	Hudson, WI
October 18, 1997	Redgranite, WI
November 01, 1997	Menomonie, WI
November 02, 1997	Kaukauna, WI
November 15, 1997	Redgranite, WI
December 06, 1997	Hudson, WI
December 13, 1997	Redgranite, WI
January 24, 1998	Appleton, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oak Creek, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Wed.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
(except December)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Quarterly	Marshfield, WI
(Second Saturday every third month.)	
Quarterly	Eau Claire, WI
(Second Saturday, Jan., Apr., & Oct. plus annual summer hamfest.)	
Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions.	
If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.	

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

GENERAL RULES

FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.25 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC) OAK CREEK, WI

SECOND SATURDAY DATE: 1:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI.

THIRD WEDNESDAY DATES: At 6:30 p.m. at Village at Manor Park, (was Methodist Manor) 3023 S 84th St., (84th & Oklahoma) Milwaukee, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. at 7500 W. State St., Wauwatosa S&L, lower level, Wauwatosa, WI.

For Additional Information Contact: Jack Krause, (414) 774-6999 or call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine) or write Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$5.00 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, at the addresses shown above.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Badger Examiners group now testing at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 6th and Good Hope, every third Saturday MORNING. Exam times are not 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the old Sterman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided, fee is \$6.25, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.25, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton,

WI 54914. (414) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (414) 759-1167.

STEVENS POINT, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Held in room 107, of the UWSP Science Building, on the corner of Fourth and Reserve Streets in Stevens Point. Contact Joe Larson, N9JW evenings at (715) 344-1182.

PEWAUKEE, WI

Kettle Moraine Exam Team. Held at the Pewaukee WCTC Campus Science Building, Room S101. 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Contact Al Johnson, AA7CS. (414) 568-0836. 103357.3222@COMPUSERV.COM

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.25. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (414) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

EAU CLAIRE

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For further information contact: Carl F. Searing, W9NW, 1129 Mc Kinley Road, Eau Claire, WI 54703-2219. (715) 834-1303.

REDGRANITE, WI (W5YI VEC)

The Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (RAW) will be holding test sessions at the Civic Center in Redgranite, 202 Pine River Road, one block from Highway 21. Registration at 8:45 a.m. with testing at 9:00 a.m. Bring two forms of identification, \$6.25 per test, two copies of all original documents, CSCE's, Licenses, etc. All are welcome for breakfast at the Curve Inn on Highway 21, preceding the exam session. For further information, contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (414) 231-1662 or Sharon Gramza, N9YGN, (414) 566-2362.

MENOMONIE, WI

The Menomonie, WI VE team will conduct its 1997 exams on Saturday, Saturday, November 1, 1997. At UW-Stout Communication Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie, WI. Walk-ins only, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Contact: Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 232-1397 (W) or (715) 235-3998 (H).

HUDSON, WI

Testing is held at the St. Croix County emergency government Center on Carmichael road in Hudson, WI. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and testing begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Greg Miller, KB9JHL, 503 4th St., Hudson, WI 54016. (715) 386-9857.

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Taylor County Area ARC. Saturday, June 14th. Testing for all classes. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with testing at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. Please use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Talk-in on the 147.15 (+600 KHz.) repeater. Walk-ins welcome, however, if you know you'll be attending, it would be appreciated if you call ahead. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054.

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST

EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST

GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST

KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST

MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST

MARSHFIELD, WI - HAMFEST

OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST

RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST

ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST

ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST

SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

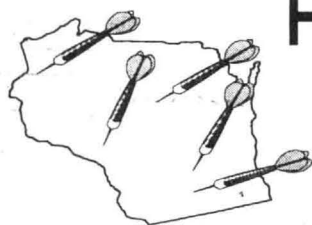
See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

DUBUQUE, IA - ARRL/VEC

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, NOKAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, (815) 877-6768.



HERE and THERE

FCC proposes vanity license fee hike

The FCC has proposed raising the fee for a vanity call sign from \$30 to \$50 for the 10-year license term. The fee increase was among those included for all FCC-regulated services -- including broadcasters and commercial satellite services -- in Notice of Proposed Rulemaking 97-49. Fee adjustments are an annual exercise for the FCC, which says it must calculate its fees to "recover the amount of regulatory fees that Congress has required it to collect in FY 1997." The FCC said the regulatory fees will recover the costs of enforcement, policy and rulemaking, international and user information activities for FY 1997, which began last October 1.

"We are proposing that applicants for amateur vanity call signs will pay a \$5 annual fee per call sign, payable for an entire 10-year license term at the time of application," the NPRM states. Under the proposal, all FCC-imposed \$3 annual fees will increase to \$5 per year, which is the lowest fee in the new schedule. The FCC said it anticipated 10,000 applications for vanity call signs in FY 1997.

In the NPRM, the Commission said the fee revisions would create a system that relies on cost-based fees for services. The Commission's proposed schedule would reduce fees for services whose regulatory costs have declined and adjust fees upward for services that have higher regulatory costs.

--FCC

The ARRL Letter, 4/4/97

FCC does another vanity run

The FCC has granted another 420 or so vanity call signs, representing vanity applications received between February 6 and March 4. Some 330 of the applications ended up in the work in process or WIPS stack, many because the FCC was unable to issue any of the appli-

Taking a pint break



Harry Dahlin, WA8UQX, is a long time on-air CW friend of Bob King, W9QOQ, Baraboo, and Fred Becker, W9KKM, Wisconsin Dells. Originally a Wisconsinite, Harry resides in Frederick, MD. He was a telegrapher for the Milwaukee Road, and then worked as a train dispatcher and telegrapher for the Baltimore and Ohio. He saw the story about Fred and Bob in a recent issue of BSSS, and sent along his greetings to Wisconsin and this photo.

cant's call sign choices. The vanity call sign program remains popular: During February and March, the FCC received 1768 vanity call sign applications, the majority of them filed electronically.

A reminder: Vanity applicants who did not get one of their call sign choices will have to apply in writing for a refund of the \$30 filing fee. The FCC will mail to all unsuccessful applicants a copy of the application (including FCC processing numbers) and a copy of their check. To request a refund, applicants then must send a letter to

New frequencies for South Central Wisconsin Skywarn

With the temporary loss of the Baraboo, WI 146.28/.88 repeater, SC-WI Skywarn will use the Madison 147.75/.15 repeater as its primary this season. Main receive site is on the SW side of Madison, switchable between carrier and 123.0 PL access (should be on carrier access during Skywarn nets). Remote receivers are full-time 123.0 PL located in Mt. Horeb, WI and Arlington, WI.

The Madison/Dane Co. 146.34/.94 repeater is our backup for the time being.

For those playing along at home, I'll post updates on this situation as necessary.

- Jeremy Charles, N9VHT

South-Central Wisconsin Skywarn NCS and Training Coordinator
Madison Area Repeater Association Vice President and Swapfest '98

Coordinator

n9vht@skywarn.cs.wisc.edu

Online SKYWARN logging: <http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~jeremyc/skywarn>

Editor's note: The original posting indicated that the 146.88 repeater had met its "demise." The text has been modified to correct that inaccuracy. As indicated in the April issue, the 146.88 repeater normally used for Skywarn in South Central Wisconsin will return to the air. However, the time frame is still uncertain. The antenna and feedline have been ordered, and the return of 88 now depends on when the new tower for WOLX is erected.

- K9ZZ

the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245, along with their taxpayer ID number (Social Security number).

The FCC still has not said when it plans to open Gate 3 for Advanced class vanity applicants.

The ARRL Letter, 4/4/97

Dayton award winners announced

This year's Dayton Hamvention Amateur of the Year is Leo I. Meyerson, W0GFQ, the founder of World Radio Laboratories (WRL). The Technical Excellence Award will go to Al Ward, WB5LUA, an accomplished VHF, UHF and microwave specialist. The special achievement award will be presented to Joseph J. Fairclough, WB2JKJ, a pioneer in using Amateur Radio in the classroom.

Leo Meyerson, 86, is still an active ham (69 years) and still lives in Omaha, Nebraska, where he founded WRL in the mid-1930s. Among other ham radio gear, WRL turned out the well-known Globe series of transmitters (Globe Scout, Globe Chief, Globe King), many of which exist today as collector's items. WRL also was a major ham radio retailer, and many Novices of the day exchanged QSL cards printed by WRL. More recently, Meyerson was the driving force behind the current collection of ham radio and electronic equipment on display at the Western Heritage Museum in Omaha, which includes a WRL exhibit.

Meyerson is active in the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA), which presented him with its Hall of Fame Award in 1994. He plans to be in Dayton to accept his award as Amateur of the Year.

Al Ward, of Allen, Texas, earned his award for his accomplishments in VHF, UHF and microwave technology. A ham since 1965, he holds WAS on 50, 144, 220 and 440 MHz, is working on WAS on 1296, and holds North American distance records on several VHF/UHF bands and modes as well as world EME DX records on 3456 and 5760 MHz. Ward has designed numerous circuits for VHF, UHF and microwave use, has written numerous articles and has organized and contributed to conferences for VHF-UHF enthusiasts. Professionally, Ward is an electrical engineer and works for Hewlett-Packard.

Joe Fairclough, of Sea Cliff, New York, is being honored for years of using Amateur Radio in the classroom as a motivator for his students. Starting out with 30 students at Junior High School 22 on Manhattan's lower East Side, Fairclough eventually expanded and formalized his integration of ham radio into the

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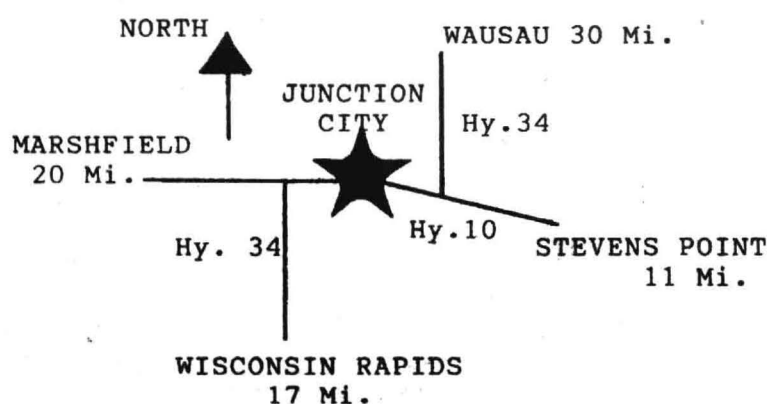
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For information contact:

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classroom into a program he calls Educomm -- education through communication. Today, he has more than 500 students enrolled in Educomm, plus students in other systems around the US using the Educomm Amateur Radio System.

The three awards will be presented at the Dayton Hamvention Banquet, Saturday, May 17, at the Convention Center. Ham-Astronaut Ron Parise, WA4SIR, is the banquet speaker.

--Newsline/DARA/QST

The ARRL Letter, 4/4/97

Madison Swapfest to move to kinder, gentler, better location

After some frustrating dealings with Dane County regarding the Madison Swapfest, the Madison Area Repeater Association has moved the event to a new location.

One of the largest swapfests in Wisconsin each year, it will be held at the John Q. Hammons Trade Center. The former site, the Dane County Forum, is on the south side of Madison. The new location is on the southwest side of the city, only a few miles from the former location. The Hammons facility has the same floor space as the old location, and there is no parking fee. It is just off the same highway as the Forum, meaning attendees will use the same I-90/94 exit as before.

The Hammons facility is next to the Holiday Inn West.

The event's ad on the back page will be further updated with more information in the next month or two.

Info from Jim Waldorf, KB9AQQ, and Jeremy Charles, N9VHT

New Icom Reflector

Due to popular requests, and thanks to the help of Al Waller, K3TKJ, an Icom reflector has been established. This is a generic Icom reflector. It is to cover all Icom amateur communications products: old, new, receivers, transceivers, and accessories. This includes the IC-706. The forum is to share information or questions about Icom communications products. Please subscribe, participate, and enjoy! To subscribe mail:

majordomo@qsl.net

Message in body:

subscribe icom

We want to keep it simple. No address is needed after the "subscribe icom". To post messages to the Icom reflector, send e-mail to

icom@qsl.net

Ken, N9YGM

New frequency for Ham Radio & More

The Ham Radio & More show celebrates six years on the air on April 20. Due to the change to Daylight Saving Time, the program's shortwave broadcast frequency on WCCR has changed to 12.160 MHz. Ham Radio & More airs live Sundays at 2200 UTC. Tape-delayed broadcasts air on WCCR Tuesdays, 0800 UTC, on 3.210 MHz, and Sundays, 0500 UTC, on 5.070 MHz. For more information, check out <http://www.goodnet.com/~lenwink/hrm.htm> on the Web.

The ARRL Letter, 4/11/97

Hams provide vital link during Kentucky flooding

More than three dozen Kentucky hams helped to fill a communication void when parts of the Bluegrass State were struck by flooding during the first few days of March that knocked out conventional communication systems and blocked highways. Members of the Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Club-42 in all and a lot of them retired--found themselves spread pretty thinly when flooding along the Licking River cut off the town of Falmouth. Among them was John Meyers, N4GNL, the DEC for Kentucky's seventh district (which includes Boon, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen and Pendleton counties). The hams provided emergency backup communication (and in some instances the only communication) for several Kentucky counties, earning the praise of local officials. "We couldn't have done what we did without them," is how Craig Peoples, the

Stolen Radios

On April 7, 1997, five (5) Motorola model HT-600 hand-held radios, marked "Findorff" in yellow on the front, were stolen from a school construction site in Sun Prairie, WI. The radios are valued at \$600.00 each. The serial numbers are: 651AQL3719B, 651AQL3720B, 651AQL1189B, 651AQL3710B, and 651AQL3713B. The radios had the following frequencies: 154.600, 151.625, 152.870, 151.955, and 154.570. A surveyor's instrument worth \$3000.00 also was taken. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of this stolen equipment is asked to call the Sun Prairie Police Department immediately at (608) 837-7336.

Mack Brophy, N9NTB

Pendleton County disaster and emergency services director put it in a story in the March 31, 1997, edition of The Kentucky Enquirer newspaper. Falmouth Police Chief Greg Reis was more direct. "Those Amateur Radio operators were the only communication we had," he's quoted as saying in a report in The Kentucky Post of March 22, 1997.

Hams participated in flood recovery operations for several days after the disaster struck. In addition to handling messages, amateurs helped call in ambulances to handle health-related emergencies, traveled with the National Guard and other recovery teams in boats to emergency operations sites, helped deliver food and supplies, and helped tabulate lists of the missing. Meyers said he could have used twice as many hams, but he and the community were grateful for those who volunteered their time, effort and equipment to help others.

Fifteen hams from the Dayton, Ohio, area spent the weekend assisting the Red Cross with damage assessment in the wake of the flooding along the Ohio, Licking and Kentucky Rivers. In addition, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association communications van was stationed in Falmouth, Kentucky, on March 8, and in the Brooksville, Kentucky, area on March 9.

In addition to the hams from Kentucky and Ohio, amateurs from Florida, Georgia and Alabama also are reported to have pitched in during the flooding emergency. At least 75 hams have been cited to receive ARRL Public Service certificates in recognition of their efforts, according to Paul Mitchell, N4DUE, Kentucky's SEC.

--Thanks to John Meyers, N4GNL; Bev Priest, N8VZV; and Steve McCallum, W2ZBY

The ARRL Letter, 4/11/97

On the Lighter Side

By Bob Beasley, K6BJH

BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS



HE'S TRYING TO MAKE A D.F. LOOP OUT OF HIS

From the editor

• In the last session of the Wisconsin legislature, an attempt was made to codify the FCC Doctrine of Federal Preemption over local regulation of amateur towers (PAR-1) as Wisconsin law. The effort came close to passing (the Senate committee to which the bill had been referred voted it out for floor action 5-0, following testimony by Mack Brophy, N9NTB), and the Senate passed it by voice vote. The Senate adjourned. The Assembly, still in session, could not pass the companion bill because an amendment had been attached; the language was no longer the same. The biggest reason for its failure was apathy - lack of support from Wisconsin amateurs for a bill which would have been of benefit to themselves and to their communities.

It must be attempted again. The leader of the last attempt does not want to work so hard again, because of the lack of support from hams. BSSS can help in that area, but the effort needs a leader, and soon. The leader should preferably be in or near Milwaukee. If you are willing to do this, or find someone who will, I will work with you. It is not that difficult! If that someone is you or someone you know, first contact ARRL State Government Liaison Verne Teske, W8RYA, Oak Creek. Get his blessing, and keep him informed. He will work with you, too. Let's get started! My snail and e-mail addresses are on page 2.

• How I spent three days at Easter: In St. Clare Hospital, Baraboo, with a collapsed right lung. This was not fun. Not recommended for that "three-day getaway." Ouch.

Clowning Around?

Mark Michael, W9OP, of Kaukauna, has never been known to play the part of a clown on the air or in person (ha!).

At the recent Madison Swapfest, Mark handed this QSL card, of the Bozo Amateur Radio Club, to BSSS Chairman Ken Ebner, K9EN. We thought you'd like to see the card and, especially the club's official call sign.

BOZO ARC
582 Linda Court POB
Kaukauna, WI 54130
Outagamie County

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MAY 1997

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1997 Armed Forces Day

The Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Army are co-sponsoring an amateur radio communications test in celebration of the 48th annual Armed Forces Day. The celebration features traditional military to amateur cross band communications test and message receiving test. These tests give amateur radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and receive recognition from the Secretary of Defense or the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. The test is set for Saturday 17 May 1997.

The proceeding will include operations in single sideband voice (SSB) and digital modes (RTTY, PACTOR, and AMTOR). There will be no CW transmissions. CW transmissions are no longer authorized on MARS frequencies. Participating military radio stations will award commemorative acknowledgment (QSL) cards to amateur radio operators achieving a verified two-way radio contact. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded to anyone who receives and accurately copies the Armed Forces Day digital message from the Secretary of Defense. All contacts must be acknowledged by QSL card or certificate to validate military interest in these operators.

Military-to-Amateur cross band test

Military-to-amateur cross band operations will take place from 17/1300 UTC to 18/1300 UTC May 1997. Military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and listen for amateur radio stations in the amateur bands indicated below. Frequencies assigned below are the "Assigned Frequency." To derive the "Window Frequency" drop 1.5 kHz from the "Assigned Frequency" for Upper Side Band (USB).

example: 4005.0 kHz (Assigned Frequency)
- 1.5 kHz
4003.5 kHz (Dial Frequency)

The military operator will announce the specific amateur band frequency being monitored. Duration of each contact should be limited to 3 minutes. (Refer to box at right.)

Digital Modes Transmitting Test

Digital modes broadcast will begin at 18/0340Z (RTTY, 100WPM, narrow shift); 18/0440Z (PACTOR); and 18/0540Z (AMTOR). A 10-minute call for tuning purposes will begin at 1330Z for RTTY, 0430Z for PACTOR and 0530Z for AMTOR. The secretary's message will be transmitted from the following stations on the listed frequencies: (Note: not all stations may necessarily operate on all the frequencies listed, depending on propagation and equipment.)

Table with 2 columns: Station and Military frequency. Rows include AAE, AAH, AAZ, AIR, WAR, NAV-2, MARS radio station, NMH, MCL, NAV-8, NUW, and MQU.

Submission of Test Entries

Transcriptions of the RTTY receiving test should be submitted "as received". No attempt should be made to correct possible transmission errors. Provide time, frequency and call sign of the military station copied, including name, call sign and address (including ZIP code) of individual submitting the entry. Ensure this information is placed on the page containing the test message. Each year a large number of acceptable entries are received with insufficient information, or necessary information was attached to the transcriptions and was separated, thereby precluding insurance of a certificate. Entries must be postmarked no later than 31 May 1997 and submit to the respective military command as follows:

a. Stations copying AIR send entries to:

Armed Forces Day Celebration
89CS/SCOJM, ALABAMA AVENUE SCS-3
Andrews Air Force Base
Washington, DC 20672

b. Stations copying NAV-2, NMH, MCL, NAV-8, NUW, and MQU send entries to:

Armed Forces Day Celebration
Chief, Navy-Marine Corps MARS
4401 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20394-5460

c. Stations copying AAE, AAH, AAZ, or WAR send entries to:

Armed Forces Day Celebration
Department of the Army
U S Army Signal Command
ATTN: ASFC-OPT-BC
Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-5000

Table with 4 columns: Station, Military frequency, Emission, and Amateur band. Rows include AAE, AAH, AAZ, AIR, WAR, NAV-2, NMH, MCL, NAV-8, NUW, MQU, and various MARS radio stations.

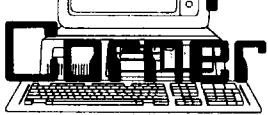
FCC sequential callsign update

The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of April 1, 1997.

Table with 5 columns: District, Group A, Group B, Group C, and Group D. Rows list call signs for various districts and groups.

New prefixes are available for this block, but none have been issued.
+ + All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

The Computer



By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR

105 Martin Drive

Port Washington, WI 53074-9654

(414) 284-9346

WB9RQR @ N9PBY.EN63BI.WI.USA.NA

SKAPLAN @ POST.ITS.MCW.EDU

No. 42: MORE WINDOWS 95 FRUSTRATIONS!

A few days ago I began work on a map for my OZARES group using Harvard Graphics version 3, a DOS based program. HG3 is a favorite of mine, useful for all sorts of drawings, charts and graphs, as well as maps. I turned on my Windows 95 machine which booted directly into DOS 7, as I described in No. 39 of this series. Then I started HG3, loaded a scanned version of the map, and began cleaning it up and editing it.

It was sloooow work! The pictures seemed to refresh much more sluggishly than when using even my 486 DOS 6.22 machine. Furthermore, each time I performed a function such as adding a line or erasing one, I could hear my hard drive thrashing about, reading one file and writing to another. "Wait just a minute", I thought. "HG3 uses extended memory (XMS) for this sort of thing; the hard drive should not be working at all unless I save my work". You see, many of today's programs can temporarily store and manipulate data in extended or expanded memory, which is much faster than using the hard drive. After all, the hard drive is an electro-mechanical device which requires considerable time to seek, read and write data. Storing the data in memory chips and manipulating there is much faster, since there is nothing mechanical to be moved. The only time you need use the hard drive is when saving your work (which should be fairly often to avoid data loss in case of a power failure). Only then will the hard drive be called upon to record the new data to its shiny, magnetic platters.

"Why is HG3 not using XMS memory?", I puzzled. I knew it was not because of a shortage of memory chips - my new Pentium MMX computer sports a whopping 64 Mbytes of RAM memory. That's more than the space on some folks' hard drive. So I started some detective work that quickly gave me the answer.

MEM.EXE is a program that tells you about memory allocations. It has come with all DOS versions since 4.0, including of course the DOS 7 upon which Windows 95 sits. From the DOS command line, I gave the command: MEM/C /P, which invoked the program and told it to show me a complete (/C) list of memory allocations, and to pause the output (/P) when screen was full. Feel free to try it on your own machine. It is a read only program so it is safe to run, and it can tell you a lot concerning how your memory is apportioned.

My results with MEM were revealing. Although nearly 63 of the 64 Mbytes of RAM had been converted to XMS (the remainder was used for system resources and device drivers), Windows 95 had claimed all of it for its own use! There was none left free for DOS based programs. Aaargh! I confirmed this by running HG3 from Windows 95. It took only 3 seconds to load, as opposed to 58 seconds from DOS, and although the mouse was jerky in response to movement, I could erase or add lines with practically instantaneous response.

So, what is the solution? Use HG3 exclusively in Windows 95? No way. The mouse is jerky, and I am not disposed to use a program designed for DOS (HG3) in a GUI (Graphical User Interface) like Windows 95. One solution, which will take some time and investigation, is to learn how to disable Windows 95 power-hungry "all the memory belongs to me" attitude. A second, perhaps easier although costlier way may be the best answer because it holds potential for additional benefits. That is to purchase a third party program which will allow me to set up multiple bootable partitions on my hard drive. One partition can be Windows 95, one MS-DOS 6.22 and Windows 3.1, one PC-DOS 7 (from IBM - a very good operating system) and Windows 3.1, and so on. On bootup, one is presented with a menu and simply chooses the operating system to be booted. Some of these will even permit you to adjust the size of the partitions on-the-fly, a rather amazing feat. Finally, you gain the important added advantage of reducing your partition size, along with the wasted space due to overhang, as outlined in numbers 29 and 41 of this series.

Well, now I have shared my frustrations with you; perhaps some of you have experienced similar problems. I promise to report on my final solution next month. Happy computing?

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SUBSCRIBE TO BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS!

Bill introduced in Congress by Wisconsin Senator Russ Feingold

At the request of the ARRL, Amateur Radio has been specifically exempted from a bill submitted April 17 by US Sen Russell Feingold (D-Wisconsin) that would give states and municipalities authority to enforce the FCC's CB regulations. Feingold's bill, designated Senate Bill 608, originated with efforts by the Beloit, Wisconsin, City Council--responding to long-standing CB interference complaints--to pass an ordinance allowing local authorities to enforce FCC regulations. The bill is aimed at reducing radio frequency interference stemming from the use of unauthorized equipment or frequencies by CBers.

In presenting his bill, Feingold told his Senate colleagues that he has received RFI complaints over the past several years from numerous Wisconsin communities "in which whole neighborhoods are experiencing persistent radio frequency interference."

If approved by Congress, Feingold's bill would amend the Communications Act to allow state or local governments to enforce regulations that prohibit the use of CB equipment not authorized by the FCC (such as high-power linear amplifiers). As it now stands, no license is required to operate on the 11-meter Citizens Band; but the FCC does have strict requirements on the type of equipment that CBers can legally use. Feingold's bill would preserve the federal preemption of all other telecommunications matters. It excludes FCC-licensed services, including Amateur Radio, from state or local oversight.

Also at the ARRL's request, the bill calls upon the FCC to provide "technical guidance" to states and municipalities in detecting and determining violations. Those affected by a state or local enforcement decision would be able to appeal to the FCC. ARRL asked Feingold to add this provision as final safeguard for amateurs who might be erroneously prosecuted despite the bill's other exemptions for amateurs. Feingold's bill also would not preclude the FCC from enforcing its own regulations as they apply to CB.

Feingold called his bill "a common-sense solution to a very frustrating and real problem which cannot be addressed under existing law."

The ARRL Letter, 4/18/97

ARRL calls on FCC to privatize handling of malicious interference complaints

Citing "a substantial need to improve and increase the quantity and quality" and timeliness of enforcement in malicious interference complaints, the ARRL has called on the FCC to "create a streamlined, privatized enforcement process" to handle and adjudicate the most serious Amateur Service rules violations. In a petition for rulemaking filed March 28, the League asked that the FCC change its rules to permit members of the volunteer Amateur Auxiliary to bring evidence of malicious interference violations directly before the Chief Administrative Law Judge. The Chief ALJ would be authorized to determine if the complainants have a valid case, to issue show-cause orders, and to designate complaints for hearing.

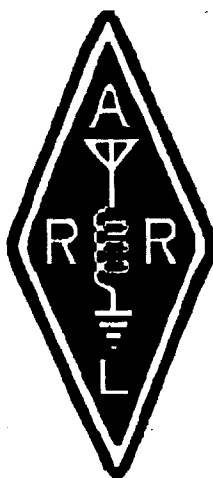
The League recommended that the FCC capitalize on the volunteer resources available through the Amateur Auxiliary to relieve the evidence-gathering burden in

such cases. If the rules changes are approved, the League said it would likely assist members of the Amateur Auxiliary in preparing and submitting complaints and in presenting cases at administrative hearings. "The increased use of volunteer resources would seem to be entirely appropriate in the Amateur Service, which involves avocational use of radio only," the ARRL concluded.

While noting that most hams obey the rules, the League said Amateur Radio needs the Commission's help "in a very few, persistent, serious enforcement cases" but has not been getting it in recent years because of the FCC's staff and budgetary limitations.

"Indeed, notwithstanding the best efforts of the Commission over the past several years, there has been

Please turn to page 8



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Continued on page 9

Hams relax a bit as Minnesota flood waters recede

With the exception of Northwestern Minnesota and North Dakota which are now seeing the effects of melting snow, the major threat of rising water in and around Minnesota has passed, reports Minnesota Section Manager Randy "Max" Wendel, N0FKU. "We're seeing light at the end of the tunnel with our flooding," he added. A blizzard April 5 left over a foot of snow in the Fargo/Moorhead and Grand Forks/East Grand Forks areas of the Red River Valley, and freezing temperatures encased already flooded communities.

Renewed flooding in the Red River Valley was reported late this week. In Fargo, North Dakota, hams were reported to be working with relief workers to track the rising waters.

As flooding threatened, an ARES HF Flood net met on 75 meters, activated daily in late afternoon, for ARES ECs and other radio amateurs in affected areas to provide flooding updates and report any anticipated communications needs that might arise. While there was no significant loss of commercial communication service, telephone service and power were out in some communities. In the Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St Paul), the MARS system was activated at the request of the Salvation Army office. MARS assisted in relaying messages from the flooded communities of Montevideo and Granite

Continued on page 9

Private handling of malicious interference?

Continued from page 7

no resolution of the four or five most serious cases brought to the Commission's attention," the League said in its petition. Even in some of the cases the FCC did act upon, the League said the Commission did not go far enough to make the problems go away permanently. The League cited a case in New Orleans where fines against several amateurs were reduced but remain unpaid and uncollected. "There is a widespread, and growing, perception that administrative forfeitures are not collectable," the ARRL said, pointing to the complex, time-consuming method of collecting fines that is required by federal law. The ARRL noted that while the FCC suspended one ham's license in that city in 1996, it failed to look into malicious interference charges against at least two other hams in that area. The League said examples like these send a message that the FCC won't enforce Amateur Service rules in malicious interference cases.

Informal mediation attempts also have failed. "Malicious interference problems, if left unchecked, tend to spread and increase in intensity," the League said. The ARRL suggested that a series of "visible, successful enforcement actions" would deter rules violations and promote self-regulation.

The ARRL also suggested that some FCC policies get in the way of timely, effective enforcement. Current Wireless Telecommunications Bureau policy requires the Commission to independently corroborate evidence gathered by Amateur Radio volunteers. "The policy often acts as an absolute obstacle to any enforcement activity whatsoever," and it demoralizes volunteers, who view their efforts as wasted.

While noting that malicious interference cases often attract a lot of attention within the amateur community, the League said ham radio can be "justifiably proud" of its history of voluntary rule compliance. "The overall level of compliant behavior among amateurs has not deteriorated over the years," the League emphasized, citing fewer than 10 active malicious interference cases in the US at present.

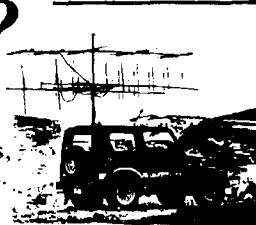
The ARRL Letter, 4/18/97

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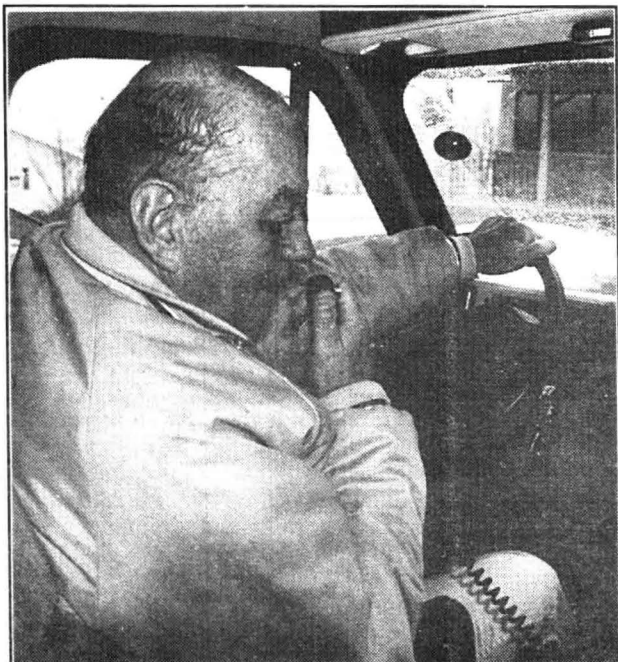
Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (608) 643-6908/643-6453

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Updated 04/10/97 - Complete listing

Note that e-mail addresses and Web URLs may be case sensitive.
Send additions and changes to wa9pov@execpc.com.
This list is also available at www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/bssslst.html.

Points for potholes? Nah! Just for QSOs and multipliers in the WQP.



Bouncing down the road in W19M's mobile in the 1997 Wisconsin QSO Party was Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, navigator, 2-meter FM operator, and pothole scout.



Bob Truscott, W9LO, was the chief of maintenance and a fellow CW operator. Here he is, tweaking the memory keyer.

Falls, where the Salvation Army was transporting supplies from its warehouse in the Twin Cities. State Army MARS Director Claudine Will, N0HQB, reported that members of the Robbinsdale ARC in the Twin Cities traveled to Montevideo/Granite Falls to assist in the field. They set up communication back to the Salvation Army warehouse which was staffed by Matt Stepaniak, N0TNL, who dedicated several long days as a net control station to assist MARS and Salvation Army relief efforts. ARES members from Willmar (Kandiyohi County) also provided communications in Montevideo/Granite Falls. In Moorhead (Clay County), ARES EC Ken Covey, W0ZQJ, reported that several hams offered help with relief efforts. Radio amateurs also assisted the Salvation Army by communicating needs for sandbags, food, dike patrols, transportation, and other general volunteer duties. The same occurred in the Twin Cities and other areas of Minnesota.

Throughout the state, flood levels often equaled or exceeded any previous flood crests ever recorded. Half of Minnesota's counties were officially designated by President Clinton to qualify for federal disaster-relief funding. Vice President Al Gore visited the state last week and expressed his concern.

"I would like to express my personal thanks to all radio amateurs, MARS members and ARES members who provided communications throughout the floods in Minnesota," Wendel said. "Radio amateurs were able to provide a needed resource." He said hams can never be ready enough to respond to an emergency and urged all hams to register as ARES members.

- The ARRL Letter, 4/18/97

South Dakota flooding brings out best in hams

Watertown, South Dakota, lived up to its name this past week. After record flooding struck the town, the call for help went out early on April 5. Twenty-five hams, most members of South Dakota's Lake Area Radio Klub members (LARK) provided support communication while more than a quarter of the town's 20,000 residents were evacuated. Before standing down April 13, LARK members manned radios, coordinated food deliveries, hauled and filled sandbags, and passed information among the various governmental and private agencies that were involved.

The effort drew thanks from a variety of officials, including Watertown Mayor Brenda Barger (who oversaw the flood-relief effort), Gov William Janklow and US Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD). Daschle accompanied Vice President Al Gore when the vice president visited Watertown April 11 to view the destruction. Daschle later toured the Codington County Emergency Management Center, the hub of the flood relief effort.

Bob Hoaas, K0ZBJ, spent the longest time on duty after being displaced from his Lake Kampeska home by floodwaters early April 6. Still out of his home early this week, K0ZBJ manned the radio gear at the Codington County Extension Center, which served as the main evacuation center. Denny Warrick, KF0HL, spent more than 30 hours April 5, 6 and 7 at the emergency operations center, passing information and answering questions. Kurt Engel, NT0Q, pulled the night duty there April 5 and was busy on two radio systems when it became necessary to evacuate more residents in the wee hours of April 6. He was joined by his daughter, Rachel Engel, KB0NOG, for a few hours late April 6. LARK President Laurel Foss, KB8HMR, logged the second most number of public service hours during the flooding, much of that at the extension center shelter.

At another evacuation shelter in Watertown Senior High School, Wendell Lunde, KB0NOE, was the primary operator the three days the facility was open. Henry German, KB0NOF, handled some overnight duty. Officials closed the shelter April 8.

With a radio in hand to receive instructions on April 5, Boyd Joens, KF0YX, found himself in the sandbag business. He hauled 29,000 sandbags from the South Dakota Department of Transportation office to Codington County for use by individuals. Joens transported another 30,000 sandbags, and volunteers (with help from some 200 prison inmates) worked during a blinding blizzard and sub-zero wind chill to fill and place the bags in a last-ditch effort to save hundreds of homes from flooding. The effort proved successful. Later in the week, when flood waters threatened nearby Lake Pelican, KF0YX transported still more sandbags for residents to use.

Flood waters limited the participation of at least two LARK members. Merle Kolden, N0GKZ, and Burdette Wibeto, N0GHM, had helped man the station at the extension center evacuation site on April 5. They managed to get to their homes at Wallace late that day, but the high water closed all routes between Wallace and Watertown by the next morning, preventing them from returning to provide additional assistance.

- Denny Warrick, KF0HL, in The ARRL Letter, 4/18/97

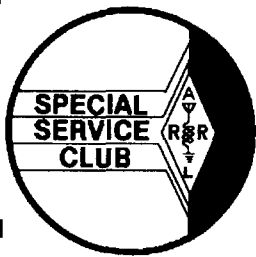
PARTICIPATING Clubs and Organizations



Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Dan Abts, N9PZC
Secretary

Club mail address: P.O. Box 621
Onalaska, WI 54650



MEETING MINUTES March 4, 1997

The March meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on March 4, 1997 by President Duane, W9HWQ. There were 21 members in attendance.

The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as read by Dan, N9PZC.

Roger, KA9BKK, read the treasurer's report. The report was accepted as read.

Programs: The program for March was a talk about the American Red Cross. Jerry Kolb told us what the Red Cross does and how Amateur Radio operators can help.

The program for the April meeting will be a talk on amateur television. See the club's web page <http://www.lse.fullfeed.com/~rarc/rarc.htm> for up-to-date information.

444.475 Repeater: Kent, W9LZQ, reported that the committee has not met but the repeater is working fine.

Net Manager: Pete, N9XVG, reported that the Sunday Night Net has been held regularly with between 15 and 22 check-ins. He encouraged new people to sign-up to give net control a try and for more club members to check-in.

ARES/Skywarn: Kent, W9LZQ, reported that seven club members helped the Houston County Sheriff's Posse during a practice search held on March 1. Red, WO0W, expressed his thanks, and stated that the sheriff and deputies were very impressed. The practice involved the club trailer, packet radio, and a Street Atlas USA demo, in addition to 2 meter simplex communication.

Skywarn severe weather spotter training will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 5 at room 151 Cowley Hall on the UW-La

Crosse campus.

Property Manager: Bob, N9LZK, had nothing new to report.

Raffle: Dick, K0JYB, had nothing new to report.

146.97 Repeater: Walt, AA9AW, said the repeater is working fine.

Field Day: Bill, KE9XQ, had a sign-up sheet to pass around to help with Field Day.

VE: Bill, KE9XQ, said there will be a test session held March 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the Onalaska Community Center. On April 17 there will be a test session at Logan High School room 114 primarily for the students in the no-code technician class. A motion was made by Bill KE9XQ to purchase a new boombox for use at cw tests. The motion was seconded by Walt AA9AW and passed.

Old Business

Roger, KA9BKK, reported that the no-code technician classes are going fine. There are nine students in the class.

The Ham of the Year award was presented to Robin, KB9LAC, since she was not at the annual dinner in January. Bob, N9LZK, was presented the New Ham of the Year award.

New Business

Bill, KE9XQ, will be offering a cw class followed by practice sessions with the help of Kent, AA9RS. The details will be announced as they become available.

A motion was made by Red, WO0W, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Robin, KB9LAC, and passed.

*Respectfully submitted
by Dan, N9PZC*

MEETING MINUTES April 1, 1997

The April meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:04 p.m. on April 1, 1997 by President Duane, W9HWQ. There were 20 members in attendance.

A motion was made by Tom, WB9-BJQ, to recess the meeting in order to have the program first. The motion was seconded by Karl, KB9EQI, and passed.

The program for tonight was a talk and demonstration on Amateur Television by Ed, W5TWR, and Russ, N0QKG.

The meeting was re-convened at 8:03 p.m.

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted with one minor correction after being read by Dan, N9PZC.

The treasurer's report was accepted as read by Roger, KA9BKK.

Programs: The programs for May and June meetings will given by Red, WO0W. He will talk about GPS and Differential GPS.

444.475 Repeater: Kent, W9LZQ, had nothing new to report.

Net Manager: Pete, N9XVG, reported that the Sunday Night Net has been going fine with around 20 to 22 check-ins.

ARES/Skywarn: Kent, W9LZQ, reported that the rivers are rising which may mean that ARES members may be called out for damage assessment and communications. The National Weather Service will be conducting a severe weather drill on April 24th at 10:00 a.m.

Skywarn severe weather spotter training will be held at 10:00 am on April 5th at room 151 Cowley Hall on the UW-La Crosse campus.

Bob, N9LZK, talked about the new Community Disaster Committee that met for the first time recently. This involves many area organizations, and will be meeting regularly. Tom, WB9BJQ, said that they are still looking for more severe weather spotters for outlying areas. Work is still being done on the project to download NWS maps to the AA9AW BBS.

Property Manager: Bob, N9LZK, had nothing new to report.

Raffle: Dick, K0JYB, had nothing new to report.

146.97 Repeater: Walt, AA9AW, said the repeater is running.

Field Day: Karl, KB9EQI, made a

motion to allocate \$100 for Field Day expenses. The motion was seconded by Tom, WB9BJQ, and passed. Bill, KE9XQ, said that the site has not been decided on yet.

VE: Bill, KE9XQ, said that only one candidate attended the test session held March 15th, but he was successful. On April 17th there will be a test session at Logan High School room 114 primarily for the students in the no-code Technician class.

The next test session will be in June.

Old Business

Bill, KE9XQ, will be offering a CW class followed by practice sessions with the help of Kent, AA9RS. They plan to conduct practice sessions on 10 meters and 2 meters. The details will be announced as they become available.

The casino trip to Miss Marquette is being held on April 26th. There are about twelve signed up so far.

New Business

Art, N9TD, the ARRL State Affiliated Club Coordinator, presented RARC with a certificate for being an ARRL affiliated club for 25 years.

Van, WA9FIO, made a motion to allocate \$50 for expenses for the club picnic June 21st. Kent, W9LZQ, seconded the motion and it passed.

There will be an Aids Bike Tour coming through our area soon. We will inform them that they are welcome to use our repeaters and that a number of people will be listening and willing to help out if needed.

Red, WO0W, volunteered to coordinate an effort to acquire several portable packet stations for the club. Bill, KE9XQ, donated three Commodore 64 systems with disk drives. Duane, W9HWQ, donated an old radio. Russ, N0QKG, donated a TNC.

A motion was made at 8:54 p.m. by Bob, N9LZK, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom, WB9BJQ, and passed.

*Respectfully submitted
by Dan, N9PZC*

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

MEETING MINUTES March 4, 1997

The meeting was called to order by Jim, N9SDI. Members present were: N9SDL, KB9DZG, KB9FRB, K9JPS, WD9CPY, KB9OUC, N9NQQ, WB9LAI, N9FOL, N9MEA, N9NMH, N9NRA, K9MIX, N9NQY, KA9DQ, KA9KJY, N9SDM, N9SDN, N3FDE, KC4GUE, KB9CK, KB9DED, N9OVX, KB9MCZ, KC9NW, N9TTA, and N9OWD. The meeting minutes as printed in the BSSS were approved by members present with a motion from N9NRA and 2nd by KB9DED. Treasurer's report was given by N9IAB and approved by members present with a motion from N9SDM and 2nd by N9TTA.

Upcoming events such as the Dream Flight Wausau, Communicator training (the third session) on April 4 and the 4th and final session on April 15th. A short discussion took place regarding the events taking place during the week of May 5th - 9th for Dream Flight Wausau such as the Special Event Station that we will be conducting from Mission Control daily from 15:00 - 21:00 UTC, as well as voice and packet communication between the 13 elementary schools in the Wausau School district.

Other things: We are taking a bus to the Madison Hamfest on the 13th.

Rich, KC9NW, mentioned the need for communicators for 15 to 20 boats for a clean up of the Rib River on May 17. Give Rich a call if you can help out.

Chuck, KB9OUC, will be giving a hand as net control and we are looking for a replacement for KF9RU's net night. Those interested should contact one of the WVRA board members.

New Business brought a motion for the Club to sign up for the ARRL Instructor program and pay the \$30.00 registration fee to receive the books and manuals for training for new hams was made by N9SDM and 2nd by KC9NW and passed by members present.

We got our confirmation of our new 6 meter repeater frequency pair, but hold on because the pair confirmed in the letter was different that the ones previously given. We will have to make contact again to try to get this sorted out. We are also going to try to get at least 51% ARRL club members to become ARRL affiliated as a club.

Nominations for the WVRA board were opened to members present. No new nomination other than the existing board

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Wisconsin Association of Repeaters



Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary
1523 E. Moonbeam Tr. • Appleton, WI 54915

WAR Minutes March 8, 1997

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, at 1:03 p.m.

Introductions of guests and members:

Nels Harvey, WA9JOB
Jim Delaney, N9QFW
Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS
Scot Thompson, WB0WOT
Dan Bolander, WB9TYT
Dave Knaus, WA9POV
Kevin King, KB9DAC
Paul Blum, K9ARF
Virg Burmeister, WB9MHS
Keith Summers, N9NOF
Richard Kosiorek, W9RIC
Randy Dyle, W9HAM
Mike Hamman, KA9BHL
Larry Diegel, KA9TCC
Rodney Pajula, N9GHE

Everyone had a chance to read the minutes of the previous meeting and there were no additions or corrections. The minutes were approved as printed.

Coordination Report: Dan Bolander, WB9TYT. The new frequency coordinator for WAR is Dan Bolander, WB9TYT. Some repeaters have been deleted recently. They include:

Royal - 145.27
Racine - 443.950
Hartford - 53.010
New Berlin - 147.285

Mike Hamman, KA9BHL, presented the problem he had with his original frequency pair of 145.37. The problem should be resolved with his new coordinated frequency on 145.21.

Chairman's Report: Nels Harvey, WA9JOB. The 146.88 Baraboo system tower went down. They sustained about \$5,000.00 damage and loss. I have encouraged a couple of clubs to send them a donation to help them out. I am also encouraging people to send them individual annual dues.

Dave, WA9POV, is the Webmeister for the WAR web page. Those of you on the Internet who can get into it, check it out. The web address is <http://www.gmtcom.com/war>. You can also link to it through Dave's web page at <http://www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/>

The situation with frequency coordination in Indiana is getting worse. A new group has been formed and is competing with the Indiana Repeater Council for coordinations. At this point the Mid-America Coordination Council is not recognizing the new group. Southeastern Wisconsin is close enough to be affected by decisions

West Bend - 443.25

Continued on page 11

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

Continued from page 10

in Northwest Indiana and vice versa. We are watching the situation to make sure that they don't put somebody on a frequency that would cause interference.

The National Frequency Coordination Council has been accepted by the board of directors of the ARRL. The ARRL is going to provide secretarial services very similar to the relationship between ARRL and AMSAT. The officers of the NFCC won't have any direct relationship with the ARRL and the ARRL will have no say in the business of the NFCC. The NFCC has a purpose. Among other things they want to petition the FCC with a NPRM to require repeaters to be coordinated.

New Business

The annual meeting for MACC is coming up. That's going to be held this year in Las Vegas on April 19, 1997. Dan

Bolander and I plan to attend. In the past WAR has supported up to a \$200.00 contribution for each individual. I would entertain a motion to have the WAR membership allot \$200.00 each to Dan and myself for the cost of our motel room. The motion was made, seconded and approved by all present.

Elections: A motion was made to re-appoint all current officers, with the exception of Vice-Chairman, for another year. The motion was accepted and approved by all present.

Mike Hamman, KA9BHL, was nominated for Vice-Chairman. Mike was elected for Vice-Chairman by all present. After assuring Mike what an easy position it was, his first duty is to secure the next meeting place.

The next meeting is June 14, 1997 in Tomahawk.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS
Secretary

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

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were offered so a motion to close nomination was made by WB9LAI and 2nd by N9SDM and passed by membership present. Current board is: N9SDI, N9SDL, N9IAB, N9OWD, N9LIA, KB9DED and N9TTA. A status report on the 6 meter repeater equipment was given by N9MEA indicating that what we thought were two Micors are actually one Micor and one Mitec. (I'm not sure on the name.) He has

another Micor that he will swap with the Mitec so that the two match. He also offered that we need two cable kits that Northway can provide for \$100. A motion was made by KB9DED and 2nd by N9NRA to allow the board members that are going to the Madison Hamfest to purchase cable kits not to exceed \$100 if they are available.

The meeting was adjourned with at motion from N9NRA and 2nd by N9SDN at 8:35 p.m. CST.

Following the meeting, Rich, KC9NW presented information on Emergency Communications. Thanks, Rich, for the informative presentation. □

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Art Evans, KA9KLZ, Acting Secretary
213 N. Jefferson • Cuba City WI 53807-1558

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Mgr.
BWN	Yes	3985	1100	0600	W9AYK
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	N9MXW
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9UW
NWTN	Yes	34/94	2330	1830	NS9Q
(Rhinelander area)					
RCRA	No	01/61	2330	1830	KA9OMC
(Mondays CST) (Menomonie Area)					
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0145	2045	WB9NRK
(Green Bay Area)					
ARES	No	4.65/5.25	0100	2000	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
RACES	No	3993.5	1300	0800	WA9OAY
(LSB Sunday)					

WISCONSIN NTS TRAFFIC REPORT March 1997

I am saddened to report that Jim Merrell, W9AYK, BWN Net Manager, became a Silent Key on March 7, 1997. Jim did an outstanding job on the nets and as Net Manager. He will be greatly missed by all.

Traffic and check-ins were both substantially higher in March than February. Hopefully this trend will continue. With the improved propagation of the Cycle 23, may the nets grow and prosper.

Gus Bonow, W9IHW, is acting as BWN N/M until someone is appointed permanently. Rob Wilcken, KA9GBG, is the new WNN N/M.

With all eight nets reporting, 4333 stations passed 2814 pieces of traffic in March. BWN had 1764 stations and passed 2342 messages. BEN 762/136, WSBN 780/111, WNN 188/14, WSSN 306/24, WIN/E 237/115, WIN/L 183/40 and NWTN 113/32.

Nine stations had traffic totals in excess of 100, two of whom made Brass Pounders League. Stations are: W9-IHW/1851 (BPL), WB9JSW/1598 (BPL), K9FHI/341, W9CBE/296, W9RCW/275, N9BDL/136, N9CK/136, W9YCV/134, and N9KHD/133. Twenty eight stations submitted Station Activity reports, and eleven stations submitted Public Service

Honor Roll reports.

My thanks to my able assistant STM, Hale Blakeley, W9CBE, for his help the past two months. It is nice to know the job will be done when I am unable to do the work. Thanks again Hale!

All packet stations take notice that my packet address has changed. It is now KA9KLZ@KC9KQ.WI.USA.NOAM.

I mail my reports to League Headquarters on the 7th of the month. That makes the deadline for reports the 6th. I can accept reports until I start printing them up for mailing. If you can catch me on the BWN on the morning of the 7th all would be well.

Hale Blakely, W9CBE, Asst. STM will also accept reports and forward them to me. Hale covers most of the CW and SSB nets so there is someone on almost every net to take reports.

Reports can also be sent VIA packet or e-mail.

My packet address is:
KA9KLZ @ KC9KQ.WI.USA.NOAM
My e-mail address is:
aevans@mhtc.net

Thanks to all stations who participate in the Wisconsin nets. You are the nets and Wisconsin nets are the best. 73

Submitted by:
Arthur A. Evans, KA9KLZ
Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager
April 8, 1997



E.C.A.R.C. eau Claire amateur Radio Club

Carl Searing, W9NW, Secretary
P.O. Box 1867 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
<http://www.edp.net/~mceraso/ECARC.html>

MEETING MINUTES April 8, 1997

This was the annual SKYWARN meeting, held once again at the Labor Temple in Eau Claire. Mark Kavinsky, a meteorologist from the Chanhassan office of NOAA presented a lengthy program utilizing slides and video, with explanation and instruction on the proper methods of identifying and reporting tornadoes.

Approximately 75 people attended, including Police and Fire personnel and many local club members. The presentation was excellent, and appreciated by the audience. Meeting setup and coordination

were by President Kevin Zehr, N9OHE, and Jim Staats, WB9RBP. Bert Spangler, W9ZZI handled the introductions.

Refreshments were furnished by the club, and by a local bakery.

The May meeting will be on May 13, 1997 at the Parks and Recreation building, hopefully back in our usual meeting room.

Lunch Committee for May: W9NW. Please also note that the club's homepage address has been moved to:

<http://www.vis-com.com/ecarc/>

Melanie A. Ceraso

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Radne, WI 53402



PARIS, WISCONSIN (KENOSHA COUNTY) - April 1, 1997: Ken Knoff, N9NBC, QCWA Chapter 162's president, today planted a bumper crop of mosquito eggs in anticipation of our annual mosquito awareness outing the third Sunday in June.

Ten days later, as I sit here writing this piece, a blizzard rages out of control just inches from my computer screen. And I have the sad duty of informing our readership that all of Ken's mosquito eggs have perished in the Arctic blast that old man winter sent us during his parting salvo. Ken said we may have to face the event minus our honored guest; but not to give up all hope, he may be trying to import an ample supply from the Florida Everglades. To find the thrilling conclusion to this saga, join us at Ken and Marbeth's country estate on the 15 of June. The glorious details will be delivered in next month's column.

Our congratulation to Bob Burgermeister, WB9IJY, who upgraded and changed his call to W9EH. Bob was on the telephone to his daughter Brook, a resident of Philadelphia, PA, just after the monumental event, and told her he had changed his ham call. Brook said she was disappointed; she was use to and had become accustomed to his old call, but on reflection she said, "W9 Egg Head, it fits". Nuff said!

On the 8th of April, Bob Jensen, W0WLN, and Spence Clope, W9LDH, put on a Ham demonstration for a group of Brownies and Cub Scouts at a local elementary school. Archie Ham Comic Books and Code Oscillators were the big hits, while a two meter demo fell flat -- the local receive site was down and handhelds inside the building proved to be nonproductive with out the site's use.

Our tenth Anniversary celebration will have past (April 20th) into history by publication date; but I am sure we all had a grand time!

On Friday, the 2nd of May our gang has been asked to provide communication for Racine's Lutheran High School Annual Walk. We will assist at each check point, ride shotgun and communicate from the two chase cars and furnish the auto with Ham operator that escorts the last group of walkers. We generally have a good time and enjoy providing this needed community service.

During our Thursday evening net on April 10th we had a surprise visitor drop by -- SP1MVQ / Maritime Mobile. Derick was aboard a Polish Freighter pushing one watt into our repeater as he and his ship sought its berth along the Michigan shoreline.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

Mancorad Radio Club

Dave Shemchak, KB9KQA,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

MEETING MINUTES April, 9 1997

Janice, N9IQZ, brought the April meeting of the ManCoRad Club to order at 1930 hrs.

The meeting was started by all members present introducing themselves.

The minutes, as printed in the "Badger State Smoke Signals", were accepted. Motion made by Tom, KB9GRC, and seconded by Red, N9GHE.

Glenn, AA9MT, reported on the state of the club's treasury. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Len, N9QFO, and seconded by Red, N9GHE.

The sign-up sheet for the hamfest was sent around. More volunteers are still needed to help at our hamfest. A special meeting will be held on May 7th, at 7:00 p.m., at the Club Shack, for all members helping with the hamfest. This will be an

informal meeting designed to go over duties and assignments and to handle any last minute problems. This would be a good time for those of you who haven't signed up to help yet, to come down and see where your assistance could be used. This is also a good time, for those of you coming, to pick up a couple of the Club items that are to be sold. This will save you from having to come back during the Friday evening setup!

We have decided on our grand prize for the hamfest raffle. It will be an Alinco DR-140T, 2M Base/Mobile transceiver. Due to the good price, Glenn, AA9MT, ordered 2 of these radios with the thought of keeping one for the grand prize at next year's hamfest. After further discussion it was decided that, due to warranty issues, we would either sell the radio to a club member or return the radio to the manu-

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ManCoRad Radio Club

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facturer. Any CLUB Member who may be interested in purchasing this radio, contact Glenn for the details.

The club sang "Happy Birthday" to Clancy, K9WIX, in honor of his 65th Birthday. Happy Birthday, Clancy!!

The club's annual Special Event Station aboard the USS Cobia, a World War II submarine, will be held on August 16th. Once again, volunteers are needed to help run the station. Mark your calendars now and let Fred, W6BSF, or Eric, WD9IAB, know what time you will be available to help!

Tom, KB9IUR, will be setting up the demo station for the Boy Scouts at the Expo Grounds on Friday, April 18. The station will be operational from 9:00 a.m. Saturday April 19th until...? (Those of you reading this on packet who may be interested in participating, contact Tom, KB9IUR, or Dick, N9QFY, or just show up!)

A month or two ago, Denise, N4WGX, and Roger, W9NPX, brought up the idea of a pin, for the membership, commemorating the club's 50th anniversary.

Janice, N9IQZ, did some research and presented some ideas to the club for discussion. The first idea, from Kuby, N6JSX, was to purchase the equipment to make our own pins. The second idea was to have a local company make the buttons. The last idea was to have Clancy, K9WIX, make a personalized item - a mousepad or coffee mug, etc. Clancy said he would bring sample to the next club meeting. The club decided, by show of hands, that Clancy would get the job. A discussion was also held as to whether or not the club should pay for these items. The club decided that they would pay a set fee toward the purchase price of 1 (one) item for any club member who was interested in purchasing a commemorative item from Clancy. Note: This is for CLUB MEMBERS ONLY, limited to ONE ITEM per member, and is good ONLY for commemorative items offered by Clancy, K9WIX! Motion to set the dollar amount made by Glenn, AA9MT, and seconded by Swanee, N9QFY. For more information, CALL Clancy.

Janice, N9IQZ, asked the club if it would like to cancel the June, July, and August meetings this year, like we did last year. After some discussion, the club decided to hold summer meetings. The consensus was that it would make it easier to coordinate things like the sub event and

bicycle marathon. It was also suggested that, in place of one of the summer meetings, we have a club picnic.

The club received a VERY nice plaque from the ARRL commemorating 50 years of affiliation with the ARRL. Thanks to all the members who made the first 50 years possible, and we are looking forward to the next 50 years!

Ron, WS9X, prepared the program for after the night's meeting. He will show a video that he and Clancy, K9WIX, made at last year's rocket launch in Sheboygan. Ron also passed out some information on this year's rocket launch in Sheboygan. More information on the rocket launch can be found at <http://www.earthlab.com>.

Welcome to Larry, K9LWI, visiting from Green Bay, WI.

Janice, N9IQZ, read the new member application. A big welcome to Mark Schweke, KB9PKM!

A motion to adjourn the April meeting of the ManCoRad Club was made by Gene, WB9DQD, and seconded by Swanee, N9QFY.

Meeting was adjourned at 2008 hrs. Program followed along with refreshments and birthday cake!

Submitted for approval:

David P. Shemchak, KB9KQA, Secretary

Meeting Attendance

Glenn	AA9MT
Janice	N9IQZ
Dave	KB9KQA
Patti	KB9NNX
Tom	KB9GRC
Gene	WB9DQD
Julie	N9PZX
Jim	KB9GOX
Paul	N9QFX
Vic	WB9VYO
Ron	WS9X
Red	N9GHE
Bill	N9XET
Don	KB9NTL
Mark*	KB9PKM
Larry**	K9LWI
Gene	KB9KXF
Roger	W9NPX
Ken	WB9OBX
Denise	N4WGX
Chuck	N9WUN
Barney	N9XER
Tom	KB9IUR
Steve	N9PBL
Len	N9QFO
Bill	K9DUX
Fred	W6BSF

*New Member

**Visitor

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, President

2373 Willow Avenue • Medford WI 54451

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

CLARK/TAYLOR
COUNTY AMATEUR
RADIO EMERGENCY
SERVICE (ARES) NEWSMike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater

(147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

OTHER NEWS

We regret to report that Harold (Hal) Wendt, W9BXM, Minocqua, Wis., formerly of Owen, became a Silent Key on March 29th. Funeral services were held on April 1st. Hal was 89 years old. He graduated from Owen High School and then attended technical school in Chicago, where he studied electronics. He had been a radio operator on a ship on the Great Lakes for several years, before returning to live in Owen. He became Postmaster at the Owen Post Office in the 1950s, retiring from there in 1971. He and his wife, Ruth, then spent their winters for the next 24 years in McAllen, Texas, moving from Owen to Minocqua in February, 1996. □

GSTK (Good stuff to know)

• The last SAREX flight, STS-83, was cut short due to a faulty fuel cell. The Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club (W5RRR) did complete a test pass, talking to Don Thomas, KC5FVF, aboard Columbia. A few more QSOs were made, but that was about the total of SAREX operation on STS-83. STS-83 is returning as STS-84, scheduled for July 1, 1997. We expect SAREX to be on that flight, and Astro-Hams James Halsell, KC5RNI; Janice Voss, KC5BTK; and Don Thomas will do the personal and school contacts which were missed on STS-83. The timeline and school scheduling are being worked out.

• The phone number of the JSC Amateur Radio Club's BBS is (281) 244-5625. The club's Web page address is <http://phoenix.net/~mbordel/jscarc/>

The Uplink, newsletter of the Johnson Space Center ARC

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.

At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

P. O. Box 923 • Plover, WI 54467

Meeting Minutes
April 9, 1997

President Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. This month's program was presented by Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, about a proposed survey to get more people to come to the meeting. He asked for additional ideas and input.

The secretary's report was, as announced by secretary Mike Eiden, WD9JID, in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*. The treasurer's report was given by treasurer Joe Larson, N9JW. Both the minutes and the treasurer's report were approved as read.

Bob Baird, W9NN, reported that the 985 CW Ider needs attention. Also, the receiver needs attention. The manufacturer will be contacted for ideas. The transmitter seems to be working well. The receiver also seems to be de-sensed. It was discussed that possibly there is interference from equipment in the boilerhouse at the mill. Upgrades to equipment there could be the source of the problem. After discussion and several ideas it was decided that a spectrum analyzer be taken up to the site and tests run.

Mike Pagel, KA9LAQ, reported that all is well with 67 and there has been no problems. Mike also reported he had nothing as of yet for a program. He said that he will allot time for Joe Larson, N9JW, to talk about the Special Olympics.

Joe Larson, N9JW, said that he will submit a preliminary list of volunteers for the Special Olympics. He said that we do not have to send in the volunteer sheet that is being sent out. However, he said that if you want to, it is fine and you can do it if you want to.

Scott Jasper, NE9U, reported that the raffle tickets are going well. After a brief discussion about the prizes, it was decided that a digital satellite system would be a good prize, along with the Packer tickets for a game at Camp Randall Stadium, and other prizes. A motion was made to have the DSS and the Packer tickets as the main prizes. Motion passed.

John Feltz, WA9LWJ, reported that the swapfest is proceeding well. He will need, at the request of the vendors, regular 6 to 8 ft. long sturdy folding tables. Picnic

tables will not work. He is looking around for some. We need a minimum of 18 tables; more would be nice. If anyone has any or knows where some are, please call John at 715-457-2506. John said that set-up is Saturday afternoon, the day before. A picnic for the members helping out will be held afterward.

John also reported on Field Day. He said that we have to obtain leveling jacks to be put on the trailers. Ray Dix, KF9BG, will be welding them on when we obtain the jacks. He also said that we should check out the antennas and perhaps do a "dry run" to see if everything is there and works right. He also plans on having a VHF station.

John also stated that he is building a 6-meter beacon, and would like to put it up in the science building. Mike Pagel said that he will have to ask the university for permission to put it up there. He also stated that he was looking over the available vanity call signs and that he was wondering if we could pick one and replace the club call WB9QFW. The only catch is that the trustee would have to be Extra Class. After a brief discussion, it was decided to leave WB9QFW as is.

It was announced that Tornado awareness week is approaching and that someone will have to go down and man the courthouse station. The date is April 24 at around 12:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Next month's meeting will be held on May 14, 1997 in Room A-107 in the UWSP Science Building at 7:30 PM.

Attendance

Gordon Miller	KE9IA
Scott Jasper	NE9U
Mary Eiden	KA9FAS
Mike Eiden	WD9JID
Joe Larson	N9JW
Bob Baird	W9NN
Mike Pagel	KA9LAQ
John Feltz	WA9LWJ
Duane Olson	W9GWN
Al Mallek	K9WVM

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Eiden, WD9JID
CWRA SecretarySHEBOYGAN
County Amateur Radio ClubChris Jacobs, N9VKC, Secretary
W4065 Dekker Rd., Waldo, WI 53093

Penny, N9TCF, brought the April meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The minutes from the March minutes, as published in the "Badger State Smoke Signals", were approved.

It was noted the N9TRK's father passed away. Since Steve was not in attendance, there was no Treasurer's report. There will be one given at the May meeting.

Net control operators volunteered for the upcoming month.

Public service events scheduled this summer include:

- ✓ May 17th: Balloon and rocket launch.
- ✓ June 15th: Wings and wheels - 15 people needed.
- ✓ June 28th: Field Day.
- ✓ July 4th: Sheboygan City Parade.
- ✓ July 26th: Holland Fest Parade.
- ✓ September 13th: Old Plank Road Classic.
- ✓ October: Boy Scouts on the Air Jamboree.

Art Pahr, K9XJ, told the members that volunteers would be useful for April 15th in Plymouth for a Week of the Small Child parade. Art also gave a very comprehensive DX report.

The next test session in Sheboygan County will be in mid-May and another in

mid June. Exact dates will be announced at the next club meeting and on the nets. Art was introduced as the new VEC.

Members were reminded that the membership will vote at the May 13th SCARC meeting to delete the provision that the vice-president automatically takes the presidency from the bylaws. A majority of members present at the meeting are needed to carry the motion.

N9TCF reminded everyone that there would be a fox hunt on April 12th at 1:00 with N9TCF as fox.

Everyone was informed that the Lakeshore Hamfest sponsored by ManCoRad would be on May 10th and Cedarburg Swapfest would be on May 3rd.

It was noted by Clayton, AA9RB, that construction day is set for April 26th at 10:00 a.m. with 3 TNC's being made.

The club was informed that Mike, K9SJ, is now EC. Mike gave a short talk on what to look for and report on regarding weather situations and conditions. Check-ins to the ARES net are welcome at 9:00 every other Sunday.

The next membership meeting is scheduled for May 13, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. at the Red Cross Building in Sheboygan.

Respectfully submitted: Larry J. Bahr,
WB9FXQ, SCARC Acting Secretary

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
ARRL Affiliated
Providing Communications for American Red Cross and ARES
Mary Urban, N9ZWE, Secretary
c/o RMC • P. O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 53401-0003



MEETING MINUTES April 14, 1997

The April meeting was hosted by President Rob Madson, KF9ZT, at Racine Metal Fab Ltd.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Rob Madson, KF9ZT. Those present were:

Rob	KF9ZT, President
Kenny	N9WHR, Vice President
Dave	AA9HL, Treasurer
Mary	N9ZWE, Secretary
Lee	N9VNU, Activities
Larry	WA9JMO
Alan	N9ZWI
Dan	KA9OIL
Don	KB9HAM
Bob	W0WLN
Spence	W9LDH
Rich	KB9MQP
Arne	KA9ZPY
Bill	W9OVZ
Michael	KB9JXX
Kathy	N9ZWN
Brianna	GUEST
Dennis	WB9SVM
Harold	KB9LXM
Robin	GUEST
Bill	KB9PUD
Rick	KG9ER
Dave	WB9USI
Matt	GUEST

Rob, KF9ZT, announced that all the radios and antennas are now operational at the Red Cross Building. All that is needed yet is some organizing.

Dave, AA9HL, gave the treasurer's report and it was accepted as read.

Mary, N9ZWE, has copies of the Constitution and Bylaws and the new Racine/Kenosha Amateur Radio activities list if anyone wants it.

There is an Amateur Radio program called Ham Radio and More on Shortwave at 5:00 p.m. Sunday on 5.070, Midnight on Saturday on 5.070 and 4:00 a.m. Monday on 3.210. They also have a Web site.

Lee, N9VNU, reminded everyone that Field Day is June 28-29. The June meeting

will be dedicated to a Field Day Logging Demonstration presented by Rob, W9EH (formerly WB9IJY).

Rick, KG9ER, invited everyone to a Tornado Spotters Seminar April 22, to be held in Kenosha.

Larry, WA9JMO, is looking for people to provide radio communication on May 2 for the Lutheran High School Walk from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. He has approximately 4 people and needs about 4 more. Approximately 5 or 6 of the ham class students have gotten their licenses.

Dan, KA9OIL, said the next Hidden Transmitter Hunt will be April 25, start point Regency Mall by Pennys at 7:30 p.m.

Rob, KF9ZT, announced which reciprocal licenses are needed for the upcoming November Ham Radio Cruise. Contact Rob for further information.

Bill, W9OVZ, (with information supplied by Al, N9ZWI) requested that the club purchase a trickle charger for the club generator. It's on sale for \$18 at Farm and Fleet. The purchase was approved and Bill, W9OVZ, will pick one up.

After several no win numbers, the LUCKY winner of the GOODY BOX was Matt Urban.

The meeting was closed at 7:52 p.m.

Following the meeting Rob, KF9ZT, gave a tour of the plant and a demonstration on laser cutting. Everyone was given the opportunity to make an HT holder (designed by Rob) on one of the machines. It was a very nice tour.

The March 28 Fox Hunt winning team was KA9OIL, K9RI, Brian K9RI's son, KC9NG, KC9NG's daughters Anna and Jenna. The schedule for the rest of the year is: May 23, June 20, July 18, Aug 15, Sept 12, Oct 10, Nov 7, Dec 5. Contact KA9OIL for further information. Dan, KA9OIL, gave me a very interesting and detailed play by play written description of the nights' activities.

Racine Hamfest 1997 is Sunday, July 27 at South Hills Country Club.

If you haven't done so as yet, please renew your club membership.



Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,
Secretary
465 Elder Lane
Allenton, WI 53002-9799



Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz

<http://www.nconnect.net/~WCARC>

MEETING MINUTES April 10, 1997

The April 10, 1997 meeting of the Washington County Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by president Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT. There were 15 members present. Gary first asked for those present to introduce themselves.

The minutes of the March meeting were read by secretary Tom, N9LZW. There was a motion by Bill, N9IBU, seconded by Brian, KB9NLF, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by treasurer Dave, KA9RNU. There was a motion by Don, K9GR, seconded by Bob, AA9EF, to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

REPEATER COMMITTEE

Don, K9GR, gave a repeater committee report. Don explained that he and Sherm, W9NGT, at gone to the repeater site and made a visual inspection of the equipment and found no problems. Arrangements are being made for a complete checkup of the repeater operation.

Don also completed a document that transfers ownership of the repeater tower to the St. Lawrence Fire Dept. for a cost of \$1.00. The fire department will now be able to use part of the tower and it will be covered by their insurance. The \$1.00 has been placed in the club treasury.

ARES REPORT

Gary, W9XT, reported that Walt, N9LLS, had activated the phone tree prior to last week's net.

After the meeting adjourned, Tom, N9LZW, reminded members that the Washington County ARES group has been asked to provide communications between checkpoints at a Walk/Run that will be held at Pike Lake State Park on April 19th. The event starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends about noon. Eight operators were needed and nine have volunteered.

OLD BUSINESS

Gary reported that Jim, KB9LTW, was not present to give us an update on the LAN and Fire Dep't. donation suggestions.

NEW BUSINESS

Field Day

Gary, W9XT, explained that a Field Day Chairman was needed and asked for a volunteer. Sherm, W9NGT, jokingly recommended that the club elect Walt, N9LLS, because he was not present at the meeting. When the president asked that a chairman be selected at this meeting, Sherm said that he thought he could talk Walt into doing it and offered to help him with it. Don, K9GR, offered to assist Sherm in talking Walt into it and said that he will provide a TS450 for one of the hf stations. Don also volunteered to help Walt

and said that he has most of the Field Day equipment at his home.

AES Superfest

Gary announced that AES had sent out fliers on their Superfest to be held on May 2nd and 3rd. There was discussion about having some club handouts prepared for this event. There was a motion by Don, K9GR, seconded by Bill, N9IBU, to authorize \$5.00 to be spent for copying costs. Motion carried. Brian, N9LOO suggested that another use for any extra could be to distribute them to Radio Shack. It was also suggested that the brochure be double-sided with a membership application form on the back. There was a motion by Bill, N9IBU, seconded by Paul, N9KIK, to amend the motion authorizing copying costs to read \$10.00. Motion carried.

Tom, N9LZW, said that following the meeting, members would see parts of an ARRL tape that was purchased by Walt, N9LLS for about \$10.00. Tom made a motion, seconded by Sherm, W9NGT, to reimburse Walt for the cost of this tape. Motion carried.

Gary, W9XT, announced that next month's program is the Homebrew Contest. Winners in two categories will get a free membership for the next year. The categories are Novice/Technician and General and above.

There was no further business for the meeting. There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Rip, W9SIZ, to close the meeting. Motion carried.

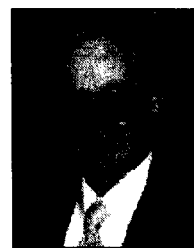
Respectfully submitted,
Tom, N9LZW, Secretary

After the meeting, members watched the portion of the ARRL video tape on Field Day Fever.

Club Calendar

May 01, 1997, 7:30 PM Net, 146.730
May 02, 1997, 2:00 PM, AES Superfest, Milwaukee
May 03, 1997, 8:00 AM, Ozaukee Radio Club Swapfest, Cedarburg
May 03, 1997, 9:00 AM, Club Breakfast, Jimmy's in Jackson
May 03, 1997, 9:00 AM, AES Superfest, Milwaukee
May 08, 1997, 7:30 PM, Membership meeting and Homebrew contest, Courthouse Rm 1020, West Bend
May 10, 1997, 8:00 AM, Lakeshore Swapfest, Manitowoc
May 10, 1997, 9:00 AM, Club Breakfast, Mineshaft in Hartford
May 15, 1997, 7:30 PM Net, 146.730
May 17, 1997, 9:00 AM, Club Breakfast, Woodview in West Bend
May 22, 1997, 7:30 PM, Net, 146.730
May 24, 1997, 9:00 AM, Club Breakfast, Corfu in Hubertus
May 29, 1997, 7:30 PM, Net, 146.730
May 31, 1997, 9:00 AM, Club Breakfast, Parkside in Jackson

Notes From the Section Manager



Roy Pedersen, K9FHI • 510 Park Street
Juneau, WI 53039



Sorry about the mistake in April QST, Page 115; WB9RQR is the EC, not N9LLS.

Jerry Fadness has changed his call from N9TSQ to W9GF, congratulations, Jerry.

St. Croix Valley Radio Amateurs officers are Pres: N9THK V.Pres: KB9LUG Sec: KB9WUK, Treas: N9MLF, meet every third Tuesday of the month, with fellowship programs and discussion, also offer VE exams every even month on the first Saturday, dates are June 7, August 2, October 6 (Dits & Bits St Croix Valley RA)

Do you belong to ARES or RACES? Please join them, as they are very important for emergencies.

Morse code is a very good way of communications for those who are handi-

capped and with special needs. Debra King, N9GLG, is Director of Morse 2000 Worldwide Outreach, and promotes the use of Morse code in rehab and education.

Tri County swapfest was well attended but the weather was rather cold.

Badger contesters club has a new call: KB9C.

Wisconsin could use more Official Observers; if you think you qualify, let me know. You have to be licensed for four years and have a Tech license or higher. We are also trying to initiate a License Interference Committee organized in each club, this would alleviate many problems, like there are in some areas.

Please people, I need items of interest for the QST column. Send them to me whichever way you wish to.

Individual Subscription Rates to Increase in June

Beginning with the mailing of our June issue, individual subscription rates will increase \$2.00 per year. Continuously increasing postage, printing and production costs don't give us a choice. However, if you are an individual subscriber, you may use the form on page 5 now to renew for up to three years at the current rates. Those rates will be honored until July 1, 1997. We do hope that you have noticed the increased amount of news and articles, all in the same 16 pages. This has been done by dropping from 11 point to 10 point type and tightening the line spacing 10% (sometimes a bit more), providing more than twenty percent more copy space per page. We have and will continue to bring you the most interesting and timely information that we possibly can, and we thank you for your continuing support.

Ken Ehnert, K9EN, Jim Decker, WB9UQT, and Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The April 15, 1997 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

The minutes of the last meeting, as published in the BSSS were accepted. Jim Decker, WB9UQT, remains optimistic that the club continues to be solvent.

OLD BUSINESS

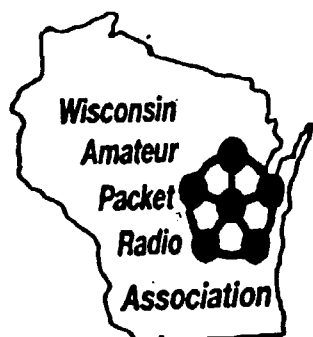
upcoming swapfest in August. Art Klee-fisch, W9WSS, asked if the club was interested in some of the stuff he has accumulated. Club members also discussed whether or not to sell the club's generator. Decided to sell it.

Club members reported on the their participation at Youth Opportunities day.

Steve gave an update on the tickets and tables sold as well as tickets given away as

Discussion continued on the club's

Please turn to page 15



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC

609 Wilson Street • Neenah, WI 54956

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 720 N. Broadway (Upper West) • Green Bay, WI 54303

WAPR News - May, 1997

Welcome to May. At long last, reality comes to our imagined warm weather and summer activities. By now you have at least been thinking of checking your station antennae to see what needs to be repaired, improved, or upgraded. We hope the windstorms of April left you relatively unscathed. It has been a rough winter in many parts of the state, and some network nodes have fallen victim to winter's ravages.

Regular readers have fallen victim to one of my mistakes. Yes, I do make them, and far more frequently than I would like to, of course <GRIN>. Not only last month, but the month previous I gave an incorrect address for the WAPR Web Page. Sorry about that! The correct address is: <http://netnet.net/~ke9lz/>

Look for the index. It has been updated with all of the parts of "Using the Wisconsin Network" that have been produced to date. By all means, check it out and let me know what you think.

In Network news, look for continuing expansion of the WAPR network Westward. Steve, KE9LZ reports that he is working on as many 9600 bps radios as his schedule will permit. A good portion of these are destined for the western part of the state. The eventual goal is to provide redundant paths to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, as well as to other parts of Minnesota. As more nodes are operational, I will attempt to provide you with the news as soon as possible.

No news to date on a pending WAPR meeting. Keep an eye out on your local BBS for an announcement concerning this. This is an excellent opportunity to get the low-down on all of the network progress to date, and find out what people have in mind for the future.

The future of packet radio has been on a lot of people's minds, judging from the diatribes I have seen on the BBS's lately. It is interesting to note that while there is great concern in some parts of the country about the future of the packet radio network, steady progress in building a solid radio-based network in Wisconsin is being made. While other areas seem to flounder a bit, Wisconsin's network is moving forward. This is no accident. WAPR continues to promote network development by and on behalf of its members. While WAPR can't outright buy a network, it has been able to help in some cases. It would be nice if WAPR had a large treasury to work with, the organization might be able to help with procurement of hardware for network nodes. As it is, however, this is not always possible.

WAPR's funds come solely from membership dues. As a result, we are limited as to what can be spent for what purpose. The more members we have, logically, the more funds we have to spend on network development. Remember, a packet radio network does not happen by itself, someone has to put up the money to make it happen.

Which is why your membership in WAPR is important. Not only do your membership dues help to build a network when possible, but your input is important. It is impossible for everyone associated with WAPR to know what the packet community wants to see in terms of network development. That is why your membership and correspondence with WAPR are important.

At the bottom of this page you will find a membership application for the organization. I hope you will carefully consider joining. In addition, it would be nice if members and interested packet operators would let me (and the rest of the WAPR membership) know what is going on in their area, and what they would like to see in terms of network development.

While the address to send your membership application to has not changed, my home U.S. Postal address has. My new address is:

Andy Nemec
453 Cottage Grove Ave.
Green Bay, WI. 54304

My home BBS address is the same:
KB9ALN@KB9ALN.#GRB.WI.USA.NOAM

That's all for this month, until next time 73 from Andy.

Using the Wisconsin Network - Part 27

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Lately we've been looking at several enticing possibilities of automating packet radio. Most operators don't realize it, but there is a fair amount of automation of the mail system built right into most every TNC these days. It was the vision of the first packeteers to have "door-to-door" mail

service with packet radio in the very beginning. In this installment, we will explain how your local BBS and your station can work together to make this door-to-door delivery a reality. Yes, we want your TNC to become part of the BBS Network and interact automatically with your local BBS so that you can enjoy a more automatic packet E-mail service.

The concepts used in BBS mail forwarding might be a little foreign to most people, and one can easily "upturn the apple cart" if you do not know how the system works. For that reason, we will explore a bit of how BBS mail gets from point A to point B. This will help you to understand how your TNC will interact with the BBS network, and help stop problems before they start.

First, we'll talk about how a BBS gets packet mail and flood messages, and what it does with these messages once it has them. Notice that you may see messages from all over the country, maybe even all over the world on your local BBS. They arrive through the "store-and-forward" system. This system is simple enough in concept. Messages are stored on a BBS, and sent to the next BBS down the line in a large group or batch. One BBS will automatically connect to another to establish a "forwarding session" when messages are exchanged. When the sending BBS is through with its work, the it asks "Do you have anything for me?". If so, messages are "reverse-forwarded" to the originator of the forwarding session. Messages are stored on the BBS, and the next BBS down the line does the same thing until it gets to the last BBS in the line.

While this seems simple enough, there are a large number of packet radio BBS's present worldwide and a large number of paths to get to a BBS. This means that there is a possibility of a message reaching a BBS through multiple forwarding routes. How does your local BBS know not to accept a duplicate message? Each message has a unique message identification number called a "MID", or a Bulletin Identifier called a "BID". This is sort of a unique serial number that accompanies a message. It is generated by the originating BBS or TNC when the message is created. Your local BBS keeps a list of these "BIDs" and compares what the BBS is proposed to receive during a forwarding session to what it already has. If it sees that unique "BID" on a message it already has, it refuses that message and asks for the next one in the batch to be forwarded.

If you've been a regular reader of this series, you already know about the hierarchical addressing scheme that BBS's use world-wide. If you do not, please consult part 15 of "Using the Wisconsin Network" before proceeding. This is very important, and cannot be overlooked. If you're not familiar with the casual operation of your TNC's mailbox, and how to command your TNC, stop right here and either read up on this, or obtain the help of an experienced operator. Mistakes made here can show up worldwide, and may cause you to be the recipient of some unfriendly advice.

Once you are at the stage where you are comfortable with these concepts, you can proceed. You will also need the following to properly set up your TNC:

- 1) The permission and participation of your local BBS Sysop.
- 2) To know if your TNC's mailbox supports forwarding and reverse forwarding.
- 3) Knowledge of the size of your TNC's mailbox. How much can it hold?
- 4) Your packet station to be "on the air" when you expect to participate in a forwarding session.
- 5) Knowledge of the times that your LAN frequency is least busy.
- 6) The call-sign of the BBS you intend to exchange mail with. This should be your "home" BBS.
- 7) The path you use to connect to it, and the command you use to connect to your BBS through a node, if you use one when accessing your local BBS.
- 8) Knowledge of your home BBS's hierarchical address.

Now the "why" of all of this.

You need the permission and participation of your local BBS Sysop because he or she has to set up the BBS both originate a forwarding session and to accept a proposed forwarding session from your station. Keep in mind that some BBS's are set up with limited capabilities and a big upgrade may be in order to accommodate your request.

Obviously, you need to know if your packet TNC can forward. Most will accept a reverse forward. You can often find information concerning this in the "PBBS Sysop" section of your TNC's commands manual.

You need to know how big your mailbox size is in bytes because this has a direct bearing on how much incoming mail you can receive. You can usually find

this out by logging onto your mailbox when it is empty. It will tell you how many bytes are "free". Keep in mind that a typical typewritten page formatted at 80 columns by 54 lines is between 2000 and 3000 bytes. If you expect to accept mail in any quantity, make sure your TNC's mailbox is sufficiently large to accept what you want to get. Remember to keep your mailbox clean of old messages. Otherwise it will take multiple forwarding sessions to get your messages. This also has a direct bearing on whether you will tell your TNC to kill off any messages that have been forwarded.

Likewise, you would expect to keep your packet station available for BBS connects in order to receive your mail. If yours is a part-time packet station, perhaps you should consider leaving the messages on the BBS for manual retrieval.

You also would want to keep mail forwarding restricted to the times when your LAN frequency is least congested. Involved forwarding sessions can reduce someone else's packet through-put. Your BBS Sysop may also have forwarding to other BBS's scheduled for a particular time. Consult your BBS Sysop when deciding what time to forward.

Obviously, you need to know the call-sign of the BBS and how to get to it. If you use a node to get to the BBS, you have to know just what text to send to the node in order to get to the BBS. Most TNC's that accommodate node connections to a BBS for forwarding can only utilize one node connection. If your BBS is some distance away from you and requires multiple node connections to reach it, you might best use a BBS closer to you. If you connect to your local BBS directly or through just one node, then you are a good candidate to interact with the BBS network.

It is best to have your home BBS the same as the one you intend to forward with. Otherwise, things may get confusing for respondents of your messages. Therefore, you may get your messages out, but not back. This may also leave some poor BBS Sysop down the line wondering what to do with your mail. He may not know how to get it to you.

The last item you will need to know is the correct, complete hierarchical address of your home BBS. This is entered into your outgoing messages so that people may respond to your messages correctly. The BBS network may know very little about your mailbox-in-a-TNC, but it will know how to forward to your home BBS. It is your home BBS that knows enough to pass a message along to you.

In the next few installments, we will look at some of the most common TNC's and how to specifically set them up for door-to-door mail service.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.



SSB

SELL SWAP BUY

OUR WANT ADS GET RESULTS

FOR SALE: Will trade my guns or Nikon professional camera equipment for Ham equipment. Looking particularly for a TS-690, R1000, TS-850, and a FT-5200. Call AA9BA, WS9T (414) 685-5018.

FOR SALE: Following is a listing of used Amateur Radio equipment for sale by: Fred Foss, W9TRU. I have been instructed by Mrs. Fola Fietz (Power of Attorney) for Mr. Foss to sell this equipment. Mr. Foss is 94 years of age and resides in a Nursing home in Columbus, WI. He is unable to operate any type of technical equipment including the remote control on his television.

This is all used equipment and will be sold in As Is Condition with no guarantees. The general operating condition of each piece is in a comment at the end of each item. I have no estimate of the value of this equipment, but if I judge your offer to be OK, the piece is sold.

Give me a call on the land line or drop me a letter for the items you are interested in and the price offered for the same.

John R. Doleshal, W9NF, 835 S. Birdsey St., Columbus, WI 53925-1410. (414) 623-3809

YAESU model FT-1000 transceiver which is about 2 years old and has a MH-1 mobile type microphone. There are no other amenities attached to this rig. The condition of the FT-1000 is excellent.

Cushcraft R5 Vertical antenna. 10, 12, 15, 17, 20 meter bands. Assembly manual. (In use as of this date, about 5 years old)

The other equipment listed in BSSS last month has been sold.

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 13

prizes during the recent MARA swapfest. He reported our swapfest will be an ARRL sanctioned event.

NEW BUSINESS

A letter was received from Julie Malaker requesting the club's assistance in providing ham operators during their second Twin Cities-Chicago AIDS ride in July. Club members were interested in participating but would need more information before committing their help.

The club's participation at Circus Days May 16-18 was discussed. The *Baraboo Sun* was interested in doing an article on the club.

Jim Paul, N9LKY, mentioned the Near Space Science balloon launch April 27 near Utica, IL.

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, asked for input from the club regarding a fundraiser possibility selling brats and soda at the Burnstead's Sauk City store. There was an opportunity this coming Friday and Sunday, otherwise, the summer was already booked by other organizations. Club agreed it was a good idea, but given the short notice, not many could help out. The decision was to decline this weekend but plan on participating in the future.

Steve Schulze announced that Pastor

Phil Anderson, W9TP, donated his equipment to the club. In appreciation of that donation, it was agreed to make Pastor Anderson a member for life with a subscription to BSSS.

Buck night winner was Ann Klinkner, N9PQL, who returned her winnings back to the field day refreshment fund.

Annual Balloon rally 31 May - 01 June at the Baraboo Airport.

Field Day is June 28 and 29.

FOX HUNT

at next meeting - 6:30 p.m. Wednesday May 14th at the Baraboo Civic Center, with the business meeting held afterwards.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, secretary

The following people were present:

Steve Schulze, N9UDO	Baraboo
Jim Paul, N9LKY	Merrimac
Art Kleefisch, W9WSS	Baraboo
Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Bill Klinkner, N9KXX	Sauk City
Anne Klinkner, N9PQL	Sauk City
Thomas Harrison, N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Jim Decker, WB9UQT	Baraboo
Leonard Wagner, N9XJG	Baraboo
Bill Hommel, KA9QFJ	Baraboo
Lavern Nedlose	Baraboo
Peter Sweeney, WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Bob Baker, KB9LAZ	La Valle
Allan W. Johnson, AA7CS	Fort Atkinson

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary

E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests.

Our thanks to KB9NGD, Peter Johnson, for his help hosting our March social hour at his residence in Menomonie. The following were in attendance:

N9LIJ
N9PPE
KB9NGD

Jim Fitzl
Jeff Cole
Peter Johnson
and friend Elaine
Ken Reetz
Steve Hart

Congratulations go out to KB9LUK, James Kinney and YL Deena, on their wedding on April 19. Both James and Deena also took exams in Eau Claire on that day, and KB9LUK passed his General written, while Deena passed her Technician Plus.

K9KGB, Bill Duncan, spent his spring helping seniors complete their taxes at surrounding senior centers from Menomonie, Knapp, and Sand Creek.

KB9MMT, Jeff Wait, is busy digging a foundation in South Menomonie, and finding it hard to deal with sandy soil caving in.

N9WJY, Rod Steele, at Chippewa Falls, reports that there have been over 50 people passing exams as a result of the 3-year Mission Eau Claire project.

Get well to Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ,

at BSSS, who recently suffered a collapsed lung.

Thanks to K0DL, Don Lund, at Menomonie, for donation of some manuals that have been passed on to KB9PPD, Wayne Johnson, at Spring Valley.

Welcome to WA9CCB, Louis Forster, and N9XAS, Bob Hulverson at Durand, who spent their winter in Arizona.

WB9PMF, Tim Rose at Chippewa Falls, keeps busy with helping area exams in Menomonie and Eau Claire. Tim also reports that W9BAR, Bob Fallis, was recently recognized on WCFW radio station in Chippewa Falls for his work at the station. WCFW is still operated by the Bushland family, as well as Bushland Radio Specialties at the base of the tower in Eau Claire.

There are currently 58 sponsors of the repeater.

Help wanted: Would you be interested in writing this article for the summer months? Contact KA9OMC.

RCRA also needs substitute net controls for the Monday night net at 6:30 p.m. How about giving it a try?

Remember the Saturday Morning Coffee at Hardee's in North Menomonie, 9 a.m. on the west wall.

RCRA Secretary Treasurer
Steve Hart, KA9OMC

Wisconsin faces possible power brownouts, blackouts; Amateur Radio operators asked to prepare to help

On April 24, 1997 the Public Service Commission conducted a briefing for State agencies on the possibility of announced and unannounced electric power outages (blackouts). These may be local "blackouts" or "rolling blackouts" in Wisconsin. There is a possibility that 11 of the 19 power plants providing electric power to the midwest could be shutdown. In the event these outages occur, telephone, fire, police, Red Cross and medical services could be adversely affected. In light of this information, request widest dissemination of the following message to Wisconsin hams:

Alan Wohlferd, Warning and Communications Officer, Wisconsin Emergency Management, has asked that all Wisconsin amateur radio operators be advised of the possibility of announced and unannounced electric power outages (blackouts) this summer.

Amateur Radio Clubs, ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinators are asked to contact their county Emergency Management Director/Sheriff/Police Department to coordinate with them the type of ham assistance, if any, that may be needed in the event of telephone and electric power outages. Hams willing to provide assistance should coordinate their support through their local Amateur Radio Clubs or the county ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator only, individual hams should not contact these agencies to offer support.

All hams are requested to be alert for any emergency traffic they may hear on the amateur radio frequencies and forward if requested.

During telephone outages it may be necessary to have a ham radio operator available at the county EOC/sheriff or police dispatcher to relay emergency traffic to the 911 console operator.

Mobile ham operators are requested to place a sign in their vehicle windows identifying them as hams during telephone outages so citizens can request emergency assistance from them.

A statewide power outage may require the activation of the Badger Emergency Net (BEN) on HF frequency 3985 KHz LSB.

For further information contact:

The Wisconsin Emergency Management hamshack at: 1-608-242-3323

Email: wc9aag@skywarn.cs.wisc.edu

Packet: wc9aag@wc9aag.en53ja.wi.usa.na

- Thanks Mack Brophy, N9NTB/DEM

From the editor

I hope you have read the story about possible brownouts and blackouts at left.

First, please follow procedures requested in the story.

We will have to hope the worst does not happen. But hope is never a certainty. Being as ready as we can possibly be is the best course to take.

If our help is needed statewide, it is going to be a real test of our ability to do what everyone assumes already: When the usual communications modes aren't available, the hams can always do the job. However, the potential scope of what could happen is not a localized situation; it is much bigger. It will test - if it turns into a statewide need - every ounce of our ability and ingenuity to get the job done. We must do our very best to live up to the expectations of those who may have to depend on us. We held this issue from publication because the meeting was upcoming, so it has been delayed several days. But this information is too important to wait another full month to pass along.

Some cities and other kinds of governmental bodies may not need us; others may need us very much. We must make every effort to do what may be asked of us.

We are all kinds of people from all walks of life. But our commonality - Amateur Radio - makes us all one. We are in this together. If we are needed, let's be ready to do the job. Follow those protocols in the story at left. Maintain orderly communications, stressing accuracy FIRST. Let's hope we are not needed at all but, if we are, let's be the good communicators we all know we can be.

Cell phone fails during bikeathon; hams fill in the gaps

Ham radio was there to jump in and fill the breach when cellular telephones failed to provide the promised communications for a major public event. It happened over the July 4 weekend of the Twin Cities to Chicago Bike Ride to fight AIDS.

According to Dave Deiler, KB9-JKV, the event was running well, using cellular telephones for all communications until the entourage reached central Wisconsin. Suddenly, the cell phones would no longer work, cutting the group off from the outside world. Enter ham radio.

Late in the evening on July 1, a plea was heard on the Madison WI 147.15 repeater for hams to bring their gear and take over where the cellular telephones had left off. Even though it was a holiday weekend, enough radio amateurs were found that normal communications for the ride could be resumed.

Dave says that when the riders reached the Janesville area of southern Wisconsin, they were back in cellular telephone coverage but that the communications loss was one that group not want to experience again. Rather than rely on the nation's cellular system, ride organizers opted to recruit ham radio communicators along the route all the way into Chicago.

(Possible) cause of the failure? Not enough cell sites covering the central Wisconsin terrain.

- Phil Snyder

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Have you considered becoming an ARRL Volunteer Examiner? If you are 18 or older, and are presently a General, Advanced, or Extra class licensee, the ARRL/VEC would be glad to hear from you. Feel free to contact the ARRL/VEC at (800) 927-7683 and request our Prospective VE Packet. Very 73 to all my friends in Wisconsin!

Barf Jahnke, W9JJ/1 • ARRL/VEC Manager

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July 12, 1997
(Held every July)
American Legion Park
Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI
(414) 762-3235 Extension 58
P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Fox Cities Hamfest Sunday, November 2, 1997

Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 north of Kaukana

HAMFEST INFO:
Chad Pennings, N9PRC
318 E. Brewster St.
Appleton, WI 54911
(414) 759-0799

EXAM INFO:
Larry Siebers, KD9IA
(414) 759-1167

Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest

Manitowoc County Expo
Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R
Saturday, May 10, 1997
For more information, call:
Glenn, AA9MT: 414-684-7096
Red, N9GHE: 414-684-9097
ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

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JUNCTION CITY VILLAGE PARK
Info: John Feltz, WA9LWJ (715) 457-2506
973 E. First Street Junction City, WI 54443

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club SWAPFEST

Saturday, July 12, 1997
Eau Claire County Fairgrounds
Intersection of Highways 93 and I-94
Carol Ceraso • (715) 723-9205 Liz Searing • (715) 834-1303
P.O. Box 1867 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
<http://www.edp.net/~mceraso/hamfest.html>

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Ozaukee Radio Club 19TH ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 3, 1997

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club
W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012-1439

Adams County Amateur Radio Club SPRING HAMFEST Sunday, June 7, 1998 (NOTE DATE/YEAR CHANGE)

Adams County Fairgrounds
West of Hwy. 13 on Cty. J • Friendship, WI
Adams County Amateur Radio Club P. O. Box 232
Friendship, WI 53934 (608) 564-7887
Packet: N9TD-1 on 145.03

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 24, 1998 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street
Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT: Steve Hart, KA9OMC 715-665-2374
E616 810th Ave. Knapp, WI 54749

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